



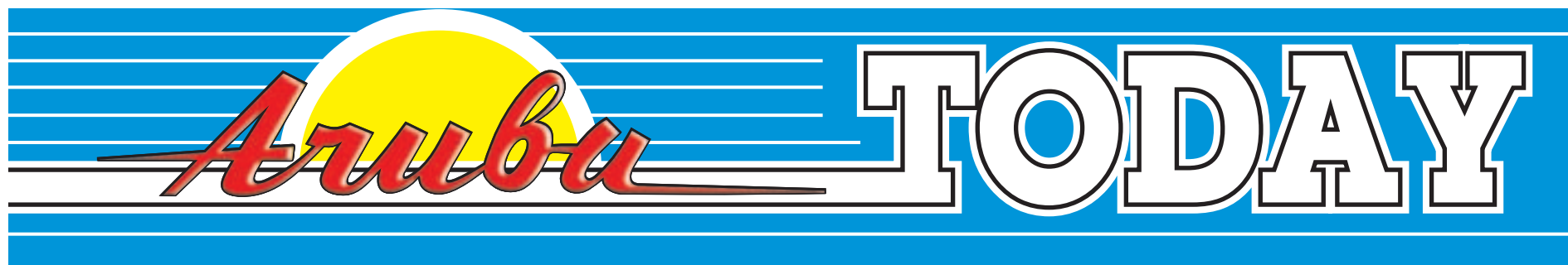
## TIM HORTONS IS A PART OF IDENTITY WITH CANADIANS

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## CHUCK AND KATE HONORED BY ATA AT THE RADISSON

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On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Friday, August 29, 2014



# THE NEW RED LINE

President Barack Obama listens in the James Brady Press Briefing Room of the White House in Washington, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014, where he spoke about the economy, Iraq, and Ukraine, before convening a meeting with his national security team on the militant threat in Syria and Iraq.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

## Obama Tamps Down Prospect of Strikes in Syria

**JULIE PACE**  
**AP White House**  
**Correspondent**  
**WASHINGTON**  
**(AP)**

— President Barack Obama tamped down the prospect of imminent U.S. military action in Syria on Thursday, saying “we don’t have a strategy yet” for degrading the violent militant group seeking to establish a caliphate in the Middle East. The president spoke shortly

before convening a meeting of his national security advisers to discuss a range of Pentagon options for confronting the Islamic State group. The U.S. is already striking militant targets in Iraq, and administration officials have said the president was considering similar action in neighboring Syria. Obama’s decision to speak on the matter Thursday appeared aimed at clarifying

the speed with which he planned to decide on expanding the U.S. military response. While some officials have indicated the process would be fast-moving, the president suggested a longer timeline Thursday. “We don’t have a strategy yet,” the president said. “I think that’s not just my assessment, but the assessment of our military, as well. We need to make sure that

we’ve got clear plans, that we’re developing them.” The statement appeared certain to open up Obama to criticism from Republicans who have complained for months that the president lacked a broad strategy for confronting militants in Iraq and Syria. White House officials quickly sought to clean up after the president, insisting that he was only talking about a

lack of a clear military strategy in Syria, not a more wide-ranging approach to degrading the Islamic State. Indeed, Obama outlined the beginnings of what he called a “regional strategy” that could involve other nations and focus on political as well as military solutions.

Continued from page 4



## With tanks and heavy armor; Ukraine accuses Russia of invasion

DALTON BENNETT

JIM HEINTZ

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

NOVOAZOVSK, Ukraine

**(AP)** — Ukraine accused Russia on Thursday of entering its territory with tanks, artillery and troops, and Western powers said Moscow had “outright lied” about its role and dangerously escalated the conflict.

Russia dismissed the allegations, describing the fighters there as “Russian volunteers.” The Kremlin has repeatedly denied arming and supporting the separatists who have been fighting Ukrainian troops for

“We agree — if there was ever any doubt — that Russia is responsible for the violence in eastern Ukraine,” Obama said. “The violence is encouraged by Russia. The separatists are trained by Russia, they are armed by Russia, they are funded by Russia.”

He added that Russia “has deliberately and repeatedly violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and the new images of Russian forces inside Ukraine make that plain for the world to see.” But Obama ruled out a military confrontation between the U.S. and Russia. He said Russia’s activity in

ing in the internal affairs of sovereign states.”

Russian stock markets fell as Switzerland joined the European Union in imposing restrictions on Russian state banks and fears grew that the U.S. and EU could impose more sanctions on Russian businesses and individuals in response to the military escalation. Russia’s MICEX index dropped nearly 2 percent on Thursday, and major Russian state banks VTB and Sberbank dropped more than 4 percent.

The strategic southeastern town of Novoazovsk, which has come under shelling for three days, ap-



**Pro-Russian rebels hold their guns as they patrol the Lenin square in the town of Donetsk, eastern Ukraine, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014. Ukraine’s president Petro Poroshenko called an emergency meeting of the nation’s security council and canceled a foreign trip Thursday, declaring that “Russian forces have entered Ukraine,” as concerns grew about the opening of a new front in the conflict.**

**(AP Photo/Mstislav Chernov)**

“Russian forces have entered Ukraine,” President Petro Poroshenko said in Kiev, canceling a foreign trip and calling an emergency meeting of his security council.

He urged Ukrainians to remain calm.

“Destabilization of the situation and panic, this is as much of a weapon of the enemy as tanks,” Poroshenko told the council.

U.S. President Barack Obama spoke with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and both leaders agreed Russia must face consequences for its actions.

Russian Ambassador Vitaly Churkin offered a spirited defense, saying Kiev “is waging war against its own people.” He did deny not the Russian presence, saying “there are Russian volunteers in eastern parts of Ukraine. No one is hiding that.” But Power countered: “A Russian soldier who chooses to fight in Ukraine on summer break is still a Russian soldier.”

Churkin questioned the presence of Western advisers and asked where Ukrainian troops were getting weapons. He said he wanted to “send a message to Washington: Stop interfer-

A senior NATO official said the estimate of 1,000 Russian troops in Ukraine was a conservative one, adding that another 20,000 Russian troops were right over the border. The troops who entered Ukraine had sophisticated equipment, he said. “The hand from behind is becoming more and more overt now,” Brig. Gen. Nico Tak said at NATO’s military headquarters.

Russia’s ultimate aim was to stave off defeat for the separatists and turn eastern Ukraine into a “frozen conflict” that would destabilize the country indefinitely, he said. □

## Hackers attack 5 US banks in cyberheft

NICOLE PERLROTH

© 2014 New York Times

A number of U.S. banks, including JPMorgan Chase and at least four others, were struck by hackers in a series of coordinated attacks this month, according to four people briefed on a continuing investigation into the crimes. The hackers infiltrated the networks of the banks, siphoning off gigabytes of data, including checking and savings account information, in what security experts described as a sophisticated cyberattack.

The motivation and origin of the attacks are not yet clear, according to investigators. The FBI is involved in the investigation, and in the past few weeks a number of security firms have been brought in to conduct forensic studies of the penetrated computer networks.

According to two other people briefed on the matter, hackers infiltrated the computer networks of some banks and stole checking and savings account information from clients. It was not clear whether the attacks were financially motivated, or they were collecting intelligence as part of an espionage effort.

JPMorgan has not seen any increased fraud levels, one person familiar with the situation said.

“Companies of our size unfortunately experience cyberattacks nearly every day,” said Patricia Wexler, a JPMorgan spokeswoman. “We have multiple layers of defense to counteract any threats and constantly monitor fraud levels.”

Joshua Campbell, an FBI spokesman, said the agency was working with the Secret Service to assess the full scope of the attacks.

“Combating cyberthreats and criminals remains a top priority for the United States government,” he said.

The intrusions were first reported by Bloomberg, which indicated that they were the work of Russian hackers. But security experts and government officials said they had not yet made that conclusion.

Earlier this year, iSight Partners, a security firm in Dallas that provides intelligence on online threats, warned companies that they should be prepared for cyberattacks from Russia in retaliation for Western economic sanctions.

But Adam Meyers, the head of threat intelligence at CrowdStrike, a security firm that works with banks, said it would be “premature” to suggest the attacks were motivated by sanctions.

Russian hackers began a monthlong online assault on Estonia in 2007 that nearly crippled the Baltic nation, after Estonian government workers moved a Soviet-era war memorial from the Estonian capital.

Still, security experts say that the stealthy nature of the recent attacks suggests that their motivation was not political.

The U.S. banking sector has been a frequent target for hackers in recent years, with the vast majority of attacks motivated by financial theft.

But not all of them. Over the past two years, banks have been targeted in a series of politically motivated attacks from Iran, in which a group of Iranian hackers flooded U.S. banking sites with so much online traffic — a method called a distributed denial of service, or DDoS, attack — that the websites slowed or intermittently collapsed.

Hackers who took credit for those attacks said they went after the banks in retaliation for an anti-Islam video that mocked the Prophet Muhammad and pledged to continue the attacks until the video was removed from the Internet.

U.S. intelligence officials said the group was actually a cover for the Iranian government. Officials claimed Iran was waging the attacks in retaliation for Western economic sanctions and for attacks on its own systems. □



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# High school buddies followed similar path to jihad

**AMY FORLITI**  
**Associated Press**

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — The two high school buddies loved to shoot hoops and crack jokes with their friends. They both converted to Islam in early adulthood. And both were recruited by terror groups to leave the United States and die for jihadist causes. It wasn't immediately clear how Douglas McAuthor McCain and Troy Kastigar were drawn into radicalism after their initial conversion to the Muslim faith or whether they might have influenced one another along the way. But the two best friends went down similar paths and met the same end.

Both young men attended Robbinsdale Cooper High School in the Minneapolis suburb of New Hope. Kastigar was in the class of 1999, though he left school in February of that year without a diploma, according to school records. McCain went to Robbinsdale from 1997 to 1999, before transferring to nearby Armstrong High School. He did not graduate either. Address records show McCain lived at Kastigar's house for a period from 2000 to 2001, although that could not be independently verified.

"They were really funny guys. They were goofy. They were just always laughing,

hanging out together, joking around. They were just nice," said Alicia Adams, a former classmate who was friends with both McCain and Kastigar in high school. There was nothing in their background or behavior to "make you think they would become an extremist or a killer or anything of the sort," she said Thursday. People who knew the pair were "trying to wrap all of our heads around it."

U.S. officials confirmed this week that the 33-year-old McCain was killed in Syria while fighting with the Islamic State group. Officials have said that Kastigar was killed in Somalia in September 2009 while fighting with the terror group al-Shabab. The U.S. State Department said Wednesday it was looking into reports that a second American fighting with the Islamic State group had been killed in Syria.

Anders Folk, a former federal prosecutor who handled the al-Shabab cases in Minnesota, said it's noteworthy that two converts with no familial ties to Syria or Somalia latched on to the most extreme interpretation of Islam.

"The fact that two guys from the Midwest, from Minnesota, could both be recruited by different terrorist organizations in different foreign countries shows how effective the rhetoric is at converting certain

people to the cause," Folk said. "It also shows that the message isn't about where you go or what country you go to, but the message is about joining the fight. And that message is resonating

Neither Kastigar nor McCain converted to Islam while in high school, Adams said. McCain's Twitter feed included a May 14 post that said he "reverted to Islam 10 years ago" and

was respectful of others' beliefs, Adams said.

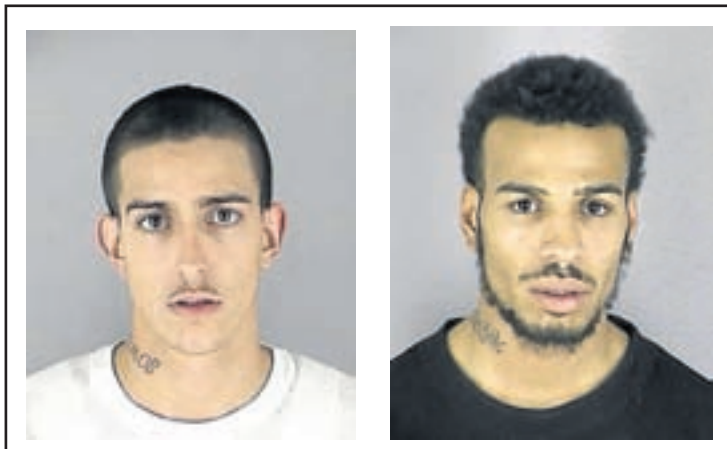
"He was just now a Muslim," she said. "There was nothing at all that would make me think that this would be where he would end up."

Kastigar, who went by the nickname Abdirahman, left Minneapolis in November 2008. A 2011 report by the GOP House Homeland Security committee says he was killed in Somalia in September 2009. He was 28.

In August of last year, al-Shabab released a video that featured Kastigar and other Minnesota men. In the nearly 40-minute video, Kastigar compared his experiences in Somalia to being in an amusement park. "If you guys only knew how much fun we have over here — this is the real Disneyland," he said. "You need to come here and join us and take pleasure in this fun."

The video also showed Kastigar's shrouded corpse. Kastigar's mother, Julie, did not come to the door when visited Wednesday by an Associated Press reporter, and she declined to comment on Thursday. In an interview with the New York Daily News, she described both young men as "sort of searching."

"I think both of them had a really strong desire to be needed and (be) of value," the paper quoted her as saying. □



**This combination of photos released by the Hennepin County, Minn., Sheriff's Office show Troy Kastigar (left) and Douglas McAuthor McCain. Officials have said that Kastigar, a friend of McCain, was killed in Somalia in September 2009 while fighting with the terror group al-Shabab. In August 2014, U.S. officials confirmed that the 33-year-old McCain was killed in Syria while fighting with the Islamic State group.**

(AP Photo/Hennepin County, Minn. SO)

with young men in America."

Both young men had minor criminal records, including charges of disorderly conduct, traffic violations and instances in which they gave false names to police officers.

The two friends were not into organized sports, but both loved basketball — McCain's favorite team was his hometown Chicago Bulls — and the teens were always playing at neighborhood parks and at the Y, Adams said.

called it the best thing to happen to him.

Adams said she had kept in touch with McCain over Facebook and through phone calls, and she last spoke with him within the past year, when he was living in San Diego. She said he was doing work in a mosque there, had traveled to Europe and had hopes of being a rapper.

McCain loved learning about Islam and "sharing his newfound faith" with anyone who would listen, but he was not radical and



# Obama tamps down prospect of strikes in Syria

**Continued from Front**

In blunt terms, the president said it was time for Middle Eastern nations to "stop being ambivalent" about the aims of extremist groups like the Islamic State.

"They have no ideology beyond violence and chaos and the slaughter of innocent people," Obama said, alluding to the group's announcement last week that it had killed American journalist James Foley. The militants also have threatened to kill

other U.S. hostages in Syria. The president said he was dispatching Secretary of State John Kerry to the Middle East soon to discuss the matter with regional partners. Obama will also meet with world leaders in Europe next week during a NATO summit.

The heightened threat from the Islamic State comes at a time of instability elsewhere in the world that has challenged Obama's desire to keep the U.S. out of military conflicts. Russia has escalated its threatening moves in Ukraine, with Ukrainian officials accusing



President Barack Obama leaves the James Brady Press Briefing Room of the White House in Washington, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014 before convening a meeting with his national security team on the militant threat in Syria and Iraq.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

Russia on Thursday of entering its territory with tanks, artillery and troops.

Despite the increased tensions, Obama ruled out any military options in Ukraine and proposed no shift in an American-led strategy that has yet to convince Moscow to halt operations against its far weaker neighbor. In outlining his strategy for confronting the Islamic State, the president said his top priority remains rolling back the militants' gains in Iraq, where he has said they pose a threat to U.S. personnel in Erbil and Baghdad.

"Our focus right now is to protect American personnel on the ground in Iraq, to protect our embassy, to protect our consulates, to make sure that critical infrastructure that could adversely affect our personnel is protected," he said. Some of Obama's top military advisers have said the Islamic State cannot be defeated unless the U.S. also goes after the group inside Syria. The president didn't rule out that possibility, but said that if he were to expand the military mission, he would consult with members of Congress, who are due to return to Washington in early September. However, the president did not commit to seeking a vote from Congress if he were to decide to proceed with military action. □

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 Prize 2 - \$ 150  
 Prize 3 - \$ 50  
 Prize 4 - \$ 50

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 Prize 1 - \$ 300  
 Prize 2 - \$ 200  
 Prize 3 - \$ 100  
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# Drugs killed Oklahoma inmate in troubled execution

TIM TALLEY

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)

— An Oklahoma death row inmate who writhed, moaned and clenched his teeth before he was pronounced dead about 43 minutes after his execution

Director Robert Patton had said inmate Clayton Lockett died from a heart attack about 10 minutes after he ordered the execution stopped. It hadn't been clear whether all three execution drugs administered to Lockett had actually

cause of death was "judicial execution by lethal injection." But the report does not answer why the execution took so long and why Lockett writhed on the gurney.

Lockett's attorney, David Autry, did not immediately

Lockett, said more information is needed.

"What this initial autopsy report does not appear to answer is what went wrong during Mr. Lockett's execution," Baich said in a statement. Oklahoma and other death penalty states have encountered problems in recent years obtaining lethal injection chemicals after major drugmakers stopped selling them for use in executions. That has forced states to find alternative drugs, purchased mostly from loosely regulated pharmacies that custom-make medications. Many states refuse to name suppliers and offer no details about how the drugs are tested or how executioners are trained.

Oklahoma put executions on hold after Lockett's April

29 execution.

Officials at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester have said Lockett's vein collapsed during the lethal injection process. The autopsy does not say whether that's the case, though it does confirm that medical technicians poked him about 12 times as they tried to find a vein before settling on using one in his groin.

Gov. Mary Fallin has ordered public safety officials to review the events surrounding Lockett's execution, including state execution protocols that had been changed in the weeks ahead of it. The state Court of Criminal Appeals agreed to not schedule executions for six months. Three are set for November and December. □



The gurney in the execution chamber at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary is pictured in McAlester, Okla. A report on a problematic execution in Oklahoma shows lethal drugs caused the inmate to die, not a heart attack, after the state's prisons chief halted efforts to kill him.

(AP Photo)

began succumbed to the lethal drugs he was administered, not a heart attack, after the state's prisons chief halted efforts to kill him, an autopsy report released Thursday says.

Department of Corrections

made it into his system, but the independent autopsy performed for the state determined they did.

Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences at Dallas, which performed the autopsy, concluded that the

return a call seeking comment. But Dale Baich of the Federal Public Defender's Office in Phoenix, who represents a group of Oklahoma death row prisoners who commissioned an independent autopsy of

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A house with sale pending sign in Quincy, Mass. The National Association of Realtors released pending home sales index for July on Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014. (AP Photo/Michael Dwyer)

*In hopeful sign;*

## Contracts to buy US homes rise

**JOSH BOAK**

**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** —

More Americans signed contracts to buy homes in July, a sign that buying has improved as mortgage rates have slipped, the number of listings has risen and the rate of price increases has slowed.

The National Association of Realtors said Thursday that its seasonally adjusted pending home sales index rose 3.3 percent to 105.9 last month. Still, the index remains 2.1 percent below its level a year ago.

Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, called the increase "positive" but stressed that home buying was unlikely to strengthen significantly. "Sales cannot rise much more before they hit the fundamental problem that the pool of would-be buyers is just not big enough," Shepherdson said.

The pressures that caused home sales to stall last year have started to ease. The average

30-year fixed mortgage rate has dropped to 4.1 percent, a 52-week low. Prices are no longer rising at double-digit annual rates, thereby helping to improve affordability.

Pending sales are a barometer of future purchases. A one- to two-month lag usually exists between a contract and a completed sale.

The number of signed contracts in the Northeast climbed 6.2 percent and is ahead of its pace last year. Pending sales also rose in the South and West, though the index for both regions remains below its levels in July 2013. Contracts in the Midwest fell 0.4 percent last month and also lag behind the pace of a year ago.

Modest wage growth, which has barely run ahead of inflation, has hampered home sales. The Realtors forecast that roughly 5 million existing homes will be sold this year, down from 5.1 million in 2013.

But price growth, which had hurt affordability at

the end of last year, has moderated in recent months.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index rose 8.1 percent in June from 12 months earlier, according to a report this week. Year-over-year price gains at the start of 2014 had averaged more than 13 percent, according to the Case-Shiller index.

And while more homeowners have started to list their properties for sale, the ability of the real estate market to grow is limited.

That's largely due to the consequences of the housing bust that triggered the Great Recession at the end of 2007. Nearly 35 percent of homeowners are still "effectively underwater" on their mortgages: They either have less than 20 percent equity in their homes or they couldn't sell their properties and have enough money left for a down payment on another home, the online real estate firm Zillow said this week. □

## US economy grew at brisk 4.2% rate in Q2

**MARTIN CRUTSINGER**

**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — After a bleak start to the year, the U.S. economy grew at a brisk annual rate of 4.2 percent in the April-June quarter, the government said Thursday, slightly faster than it had first estimated.

The upward revision supported expectations that the second half of 2014 will prove far stronger than the first half.

The Commerce Department's second estimate of growth for last quarter followed its initial estimate of 4 percent. The upward revision reflected stronger business investment than first thought.

The seasonally adjusted 4.2 percent annual growth rate for the gross domestic product — the nation's total output of goods and services — came after the economy had shrunk at a 2.1 percent annual rate in the January-March quarter. That was the economy's biggest drop since the depths of the Great Recession, and it reflected mainly the effects of a harsh winter that kept consumers away from shopping malls and disrupted factory production.

Many economists say they expect growth of around 3 percent in the current July-September quarter and for the rest of the year.

The government's upwardly revised estimate of business investment last quarter showed capital spending growing at an annual rate of 8.4 percent last quarter. That was sharply higher than the government's initial 5.5 percent estimate.

Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, said the strength in business investment has likely extended into the current quarter, lending support to the economy.

In its second estimate of growth for last quarter, the government said companies' restocking of supplies contributed less than it had first estimated. But a higher trade deficit subtracted less from growth than initially estimated.

The downward revision in inventory building will likely help boost growth in the current quarter because it means that businesses may need to restock their supplies to meet demand.

With the wild swing between the first quarter's sharp slump and the vigorous rebound last quarter, annual economic growth has averaged a meager 1.1 percent for the first six months of this year.

Because of the rocky start, economists think growth for all of 2014 will average just 2.1 percent, little changed from last year's 2.2 percent increase.

They're more optimistic about 2015. Many expect growth to accelerate to 3 percent, an indication that the economy is finally gaining cruising speed after the deep 2007-2009 recession, the worst since the 1930s. The recession officially ended in June 2009 and over the past five years, the economy has turned in subpar growth rates averaging around 2 percent a year.

"I am looking for 2015 to be a better year, assuming geopolitics don't get in the way," said Sung Won Sohn, an economics professor at California State University, Channel Islands. Economists worry that any of several political hotspots, from Ukraine to Israel to Iraq, could erupt in a way that would destabilize U.S. and global growth.

But Sohn said numerous factors should support growth in the second half of this year and in 2015. The principal strength is expected to come from further improvement in the job market.

In July, employers added 209,000 jobs, the sixth straight month of solid 200,000-plus job growth. □





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## US Financial Front:

# Survey says Americans' pessimism on economy has grown

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer  
WASHINGTON (AP)

Americans are more anxious about the economy now than they were right after the Great Recession ended despite stock market gains, falling unemployment and growth moving closer to full health.

Seventy-one percent of Americans say they think the recession exerted a permanent drag on the economy, according to a survey being released Thursday by Rutgers University. By contrast, in November 2009, five months after the recession officially ended, the Rutgers researchers found that only 49 percent thought the downturn would have lasting damage. And that was when the unemployment rate was 9.9 percent, compared with the current 6.2 percent.

"They're more negative than they were five years ago," said Rutgers public policy professor Carl Van

Horn.

The slow pace of improvement during most of the recovery, now in its sixth year, has eroded confidence and slowed a return to the pay levels that many enjoyed before the economy suffered its worst collapse since the 1930s. About 42 percent of those surveyed say they have less pay and savings than before the recession began in late 2007. Just 7 percent say they're significantly better off.

The survey results dovetail with estimates that the median household income was \$53,891 in June, according to Sentier Research.

That's down from an inflation-adjusted \$56,604 at the start of the recession. Each year of subpar growth has compounded the anxieties of many Americans.

In contrast to the robust snapbacks that coincided with most economic rebounds, this recovery proved tepid well after the recession had ended.



Ed Carbaugh prepares to install parts on a truck engine on an assembly line at Volvo Trucks' powertrain manufacturing facility in Hagerstown, Md. A Rutgers University survey says Americans are more anxious about the economy now than they were right after the Great Recession ended.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

Consumers struggled with an overhang of mortgage debt and the risk of layoffs for much of the recovery. A majority of those surveyed say they fear that job security has all but disappeared and that they'll have little choice but to work part time during retirement.

"No current worker had ever experienced this

before," Van Horn said. "This recession was everywhere." Researchers at Rutgers' John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development surveyed online a national cross-section of 1,153 adults between July 24 and August 3. The margin of error was plus or minus 3 percentage points. The survey is part of a broader series

of polls taken over multiple years to study the consequences of the recession for workers.

Recent evidence of economic strength has done little to brighten most Americans' outlooks. The Standard and Poor's 500 stock index has surged more than 170 percent since bottoming in March 2009. □

# \$506 billion is forecast for deficit, a slight rise

BINYAMIN APPELBAUM

© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - The federal government is expected to finish its fiscal year with a relatively modest budget deficit as the gap between revenue and spending continues a sharp decline, the Congressional Budget Office said this week.

The improvement in the government's financial health has shifted political debate in Washington, and arguments on the midterm campaign trail, from the level of federal spending to the uses of that money. It has frustrated economists

who argue that the government's restraint has held back the economic recovery.

The budget office said that it now predicted a federal deficit of \$506 billion during the fiscal year that runs through the end of September, modestly increasing its April projection that spending would exceed revenue by \$492 billion. The change was attributed to lower-than-expected corporate income tax receipts.

Both figures are significantly lower than the \$680 billion deficit during the previous fiscal year.

The budget office also said it expected somewhat smaller deficits in coming years, reducing the accumulation of the federal debt by about \$400 billion in the next decade. The projection largely reflects an expectation that the government will be able to borrow at lower interest rates.

The budget office's projection earlier this year was criticized by some analysts for assuming the government would face an unlikely combination of slow economic growth and high rates.

The fiscal outlook also has benefited from a decline in projected Medicare spending.

And the report highlighted the outside role of the Federal Reserve, which has helped improve the fiscal picture by holding down interest rates and by shipping the profits from its investment holdings to the Treasury Department.

Even with smaller annual deficits, however, the budget office said it expected the accumulated federal debt held by the public to reach 74 percent of gross domestic product by the

end of this year, the highest ratio of debt to GDP since 1950. A decade from now, in 2024, it projected that the ratio would stand at 77.2 percent.

The new budget office projections included a lower estimate of economic growth during the current calendar year, and of the economy's sustainable growth rate in future years. It now expects the economy to expand by just 1.5 percent from the fourth quarter of 2013 to the fourth quarter of 2014, down from a prediction of 3.1 percent in February. □



# Little League win lifts district marred by violence



Jackie Robinson West first baseman and outfielder Lawrence Noble, teammates and coaches ride atop an open-air double-decker bus during a downtown welcome home celebration for the U.S. Little League champions, in Chicago, Aug. 27, 2014. The rolling celebration started on the city's South Side with a neighborhood rally at the team's home park and worked its way downtown via trolley buses, along 70 blocks lined with residents waiting to see their heroes.

(Alyssa Schukar/The New York Times)

**GREG COUCH**

© 2014 New York Times

**CHICAGO** - People showed up and plopped down lawn chairs, sitting there just so they could feel like a part of the event, even if they could not see anything. The neighborhood's residents were glad for their team, for their boys

and for themselves. They brought cakes. They rode bikes. They hugged. This was a homey neighborhood celebration on the city's South Side, a departure for an area known for gun violence. Chicago finally had its chance on Wednesday to welcome home the

Jackie Robinson West Little League team that won the United States championship on Saturday. The rolling celebration started with a rally at the team's home park and worked its way into the city center. Residents lined up for 70 blocks along Halsted Street, waiting for their he-

ing in yellow shirts on 95th and Halsted. A half-dozen women in wheelchairs waited at 81st Street in front of the Naomi and Sylvester Smith Senior Living Center. Hundreds of students packed in at 79th Street near St. Sabina Academy. On 76th, there were more children in front of a learning center. Terrence J. Lavin, an Illinois appeals court justice, grew up in the area playing Little League. Now, he said, he deals daily with "guns, gangs and drugs." On Wednesday, he was not delivering speeches, but instead was at 87th Street in what he considers his neighborhood. "There aren't many parades down Halsted Street," he said. "None in my memory. Remember when President Barack Obama said that Trayvon Martin could be his son? There are thousands of Chicagoans, white and black, thinking that about these amazing kids." "They are medicine for a municipality dulled into a sort of crime stupor because of all the shootings,"

news reports routinely tally up weekend shootings. The young faces on the news are not displaying smiles or celebrations. That is what made this team so important. So tens of thousands of people, counting those at the finale rally at Millennium Park in downtown Chicago, were celebrating not only the team, but also community. "Every time you turn on the television, you always hear about someone's baby getting killed," said Aaron Wright, who was at the early rally at Jackie Robinson Park. "Every time people think about Chicago now, they think about guns." "This gives us inspiration," he said. "This is better than the Bud Billiken Day parade." Bud Billiken is a fictional character celebrated with an annual parade on the South Side, partly as motivation for children to do well at school. At the Bud Billiken Parade this month, two people were shot. So the community came out to Jackie Robinson



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As confetti falls, Sheree Salmon cheers during a downtown welcome home celebration for the U.S. Little League champion Jackie Robinson West team, in Chicago, Aug. 27, 2014.

(Alyssa Schukar/The New York Times)

roes. It was the kind of celebration you would expect in small-town America. As politicians lined up to talk with a few thousand fans at a rally on the team's field, the parade route already had a classroom of day care students stand-

he said. "We are better than that. And these kids are a living, breathing symbol of that." Chicago is a city with an out-of-character crisis in confidence, especially on its South Side. It is fighting the label of America's murder capital as Monday

Park, surrounded by traditional Chicago bungalows. People put down lawn chairs, filled the stands, hovered around the home-run walls. At the rally downtown, the celebration seemed more about Chicago than the South Side. □





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# Jihadists kill dozens of captured Syrian soldiers

Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — The Islamic State group killed more than 160 Syrian government troops seized in recent fighting, posting pictures Thursday of terrified young conscripts stripped down to their underwear before meeting their deaths in the arid Syrian countryside.

The slayings were the latest massacre attributed to the extremist group, which has terrorized rivals and civilians alike with widely publicized brutality in Syria and Iraq as it seeks to expand a proto-state it has carved out on both sides of the border.

In southern Syria, meanwhile, gunmen detained 43 U.N. peacekeepers during fighting on the Syrian side of the Golan Heights, the United Nations said. It added that another 81 peacekeepers were trapped in the area by heavy clashes between rebels and Syrian troops.

The mass killing of Syrian soldiers is part of a stepped up campaign by Islamic State militants targeting President Bashar Assad's forces. Until recently, the group had been focused on eliminating rivals among the rebels fighting to topple him, systematically routing Western-backed opposition fighters and other Islamic factions from towns and villages in northern and eastern Syria as it expands.

More recently, the jihadists have turned their attention to Assad's forces, seizing a series of military bases in northeastern Raqqa province. In the process, they have killed hundreds of pro-government forces, beheading some and later displaying their severed



This image shows a fighter from the Islamic State group, armed with a knife and an automatic weapon, next to captured Syrian army soldiers and officers, following the battle for the Tabqa air base, in Raqqa, Syria.

(AP Photo/Raqqa Media Center of the Islamic State group)

heads on poles and fences and posting the pictures online.

Most of the dozens killed over the past 24 hours were rounded up Wednesday near the Tabqa airfield three days after Islamic State fighters seized the base. The government troops were among a large group of soldiers from the base who were stuck behind front lines after it fell to the jihadi fighters.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said around 120 captive government troops from Tabqa were killed near the base. Islamic State fighters also killed at least another 40 soldiers, most of whom were taken prisoner in recent fighting at other bases in the Hamrat region near Raqqa city, the group's stronghold.

A statement posted online and circulated on Twitter claimed the extremists killed about 200 government prisoners captured near Tabqa. It also showed

photographs of what it said were the prisoners: young men stripped down to their underwear marching in the desert, some with their hands behind their heads. The photos could not immediately be verified, but correspond to other AP reporting.

The group also posted a video showing Islamic State fighters forcing the barefoot men to march through the desert. Another video later showed dozens of bodies piled in the desert, alongside others lying motionless — apparently dead — in a row in the sand.

While the videos could not be independently confirmed by the AP, they appeared to illustrate the claims made online by the Islamic State group and Syrian opposition activists about the mass killing.

There was no immediate comment from the Syrian government, which has been tight-lipped on the massive death toll incurred by its soldiers at the hands

of Islamic State fighters in the past two months.

In its rise to prominence over the past year, the extremist group has frequently published graphic photos and videos of everything from bombings and beheadings to mass killings and images of jihadists taunting and humiliating terrified troops or other opponents.

In Iraq, the group killed nearly 200 men — most of them Iraqi soldiers — in late June near the northern city of Tikrit, human rights groups and Iraqi officials say. It published photos online showing dozens of men dressed in civilian clothing lying face down as militants aimed rifles at their backs. □

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# French leader banks on free market to save economy

**JAMEY KEATEN  
SYLVIE CORBET  
Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — Facing pitiful poll numbers, Francois Hollande has cast his lot: The French president who once decried global finance and

vowed a 75-percent tax on millionaires has quashed dissent from his Socialist government's left flank and appointed a well-heeled former investment banker as his new point man on the economy.

Several left-leaning critics were sent packing in a Cabinet shakeup that sent a message to international investors, European allies and millions of French: France is willing to embrace more free market policies

and often unpopular reforms to tackle double-digit unemployment and zero economic growth.

The spirit of Hollande's new focus was summed up in a speech by his prime minister, Manuel Valls, who put together a new Cabinet this week that includes former banker Emmanuel Macron as economy minister. "I like companies," he said to a standing ovation from a gathering of the country's main employers lobby, which is reviled by many on the left, including in the Socialist party.

Hollande has not made good on his pledges to revive the economy and reduce unemployment since taking office in 2012. In January, he announced more pro-business policies, gradual deficit reduction, and tweaks to France's generous social system — but not the overhaul sought by some. Recent polls show his approval rating in the high teens, among the lowest levels in decades for a French president.

Unlike neighboring Spain and Italy, France has made no major structural reforms.

But Hollande ordered 50 billion euros (\$66 billion) in cost savings over three years across the government, sparing only schools and the judicial system, including courts and police. The latest tilt toward the political center suggests Hollande is committing to reforms and cuts, as opposed to increased public spending, to revive the economy, but without eroding the social safety net. It also indicates he is willing to try to bring France's deficits back within European Union limits.

"This is a confirmation of the desire of the executive to maintain its direction," said Antoine Bozio, an economist and director of the public policy institute IPP in Paris.

Tuesday's Cabinet shuffle marked the exit of Arnaud Montebourg, a firebrand economy minister who recently publicly criticized Hollande's budgetary rigor as a crimp to growth. Many believed Hollande had kept on Montebourg, a frequent critic, to assuage the solidly-left segment of the Socialist Party. □



French President Francois Hollande, left, shakes hands with new French Economy Minister Emmanuel Macron while French Finance Minister Michel Sapin, center, looks on, after the weekly cabinet meeting in Paris, France. France's prime minister reshuffled his Cabinet on Tuesday to silence ministers who had openly criticized Socialist President Francois Hollande's economic policies as he tries to pull the nation out of stagnation and steer it toward growth.

(AP Photo/Remy de la Mauviniere)

## In Sierra Leone;

# Ebola outbreak tied to one funeral

**DONALD G. McNEIL Jr  
© 2014 New York Times**

Sierra Leone's explosion of Ebola cases in early summer appears to stem from one traditional healer's funeral at which 14 women were infected, according to scientists studying the blood of victims.

The funeral, which took place in mid-May, constitutes a "super-spreader" event comparable to a 2003 one in a Hong Kong hotel in which one doctor from China dying of SARS infected nine other guests who spread the virus throughout the city and to Vietnam and Canada.

The funeral was in Koindu, a town just across the border from Guéckédou, Guinea, where the outbreak is thought to have begun in December, and the healer was known for treating victims of a mysterious illness that turned out to be Ebola.

The funeral's central role — which local doctors had anecdotally suspected — was confirmed by geneticists at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard who sequenced the virus found in 78 patients treated at Kenema Government Hospital in northeastern Sierra Leone, near the borders with Liberia and Guinea, two countries that are also at the heart of the outbreak. Their study was published online Thursday by the journal Science.

"It's frightening that a single event could catalyze a whole outbreak, but that's what it looks like happened," said Dr. W. Ian Lipkin, a renowned virus hunter at Columbia University.

The scientists not only found that all 78 had virus traceable to funeral guests, but showed that the West African Ebola strain was quite different from the strain cir-

culating thousands of miles away in central Africa, and that the two probably diverged as far back as 2004. "No one knows where it's been during that time," said Dr. Pardis C. Sabeti, a Harvard geneticist and study co-author.

That information is important, experts said, because all the diagnostic tests now in use, as well as experimental drugs and vaccines under consideration, are based on the central African strain and might not work well on this new outbreak.

The work had a sobering footnote: Before it could be published, five of its co-authors had died of Ebola. They included Dr. Sheik Humarr Khan, Sierra Leone's leading hemorrhagic fever expert, and four other staff members at the Kenema hospital. □

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## EU struggles with dearth of women in top jobs

RAF CASERT  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Don't be fooled by Angela Merkel. The German chancellor may be the most powerful leader in the European Union, but she hardly paints a true picture of the place of women in EU politics. EU leaders meet on Saturday to divide top jobs for the next half decade, and after years of paying lip service to increasing equality between the sexes, the problem of inequality is still plain for all to see at these meetings — where are the women?

"If you look at the family picture of these European summits for the past few years, there always is this blot of grey men in lookalike suits and the color of only a few women," said European political science Professor Hendrik Vos of Ghent University. One summit won't change much, he said. "It will certainly not be the major breakthrough for women." Within the EU's bureaucracy, Baroness Catherine Ashton now is the most recognizable woman among the EU officials. The foreign policy chief flies across the world and hobnobs with the great and powerful to deal with anything from Iran's nuclear program to the fighting in Ukraine and the Middle East.

She is leaving, and whether she will be replaced by another woman is one of the key questions for the government leaders at this summit, which was called because a first attempt to divvy up the 30-odd jobs among nations, political affiliations — and gender — ended inconclusively.

Beyond the foreign policy slot, the 28 leaders will be looking for someone to take the top job of EU Council president, the main rep-

resentative for the EU, as incumbent Herman Van Rompuy is at the end of his term. They will also want a financial wizard to head the Eurogroup, the gathering of finance ministers from the 18 countries that use the euro. And a slew of EU Commissioners, the EU executives in charge of policy in fields like trade, farming and culture, will also need to be named, if not this weekend then over the coming days. The new Commission starts in November.

Former Luxembourg prime minister Jean-Claude Juncker has already been picked to lead the Commission, the executive body that handles day-to-day issues for the EU, and his prime concern is getting more women on his 28-member team.

There were nine women on the outgoing team of 28 and with the days ticking down to Saturday's summit only five of the 28 nations have committed a woman as their designated Commissioner — Sweden, Bulgaria, Italy, Czech Republic and Slovenia.

Soraya Post, who became the first representative of a feminist party to take a seat in the European Parliament in May, says the nominations show how gender issues are still not taken seriously in the EU.

"In 2014, they still think it is OK to have a commission that is not gender balanced. It is frightening," she said.

She thinks structural barriers that stop women from advancing and traditional patriarchal attitudes are at the root of the problem, but says the recent rise of the far right in Europe could also have influenced this year's nominations.

The Swede says a suggestion launched by the European Women's Lobby in 2009, that each country



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, right, greets Luxembourg's Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker in Meseberg, Germany. As chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel may be the most powerful politician in the European Union, but she is more mirage than reality when it gets to the place of women in EU politics. EU leaders meet on Saturday to divide top jobs for the next five years, and after years of paying lip service to more equality among the sexes, it is plain for all to see, where are the women? (AP Photo/Johannes Eisele)

should nominate one woman and one man for their commission post, could be a way to solve the problem.

The limited number of female nominations puts Juncker in a tough spot, because only the candidates

put forth by national governments can be considered for the Commissioner jobs.

The current female Commissioners have set up a campaign to have at least 10 women in the group. They sent Juncker a joint statement ending with "You deserve a flying start — and with 10 or more female Commissioners in your team, you will get it."

Juncker will need to make a strong stand for women to get his Commission candidates approved by the European Parliament, which has the power to reject his team. "Parliament will not accept a gentlemen's club," European Parliament President Martin Schulz warned. So Juncker could well face a struggle. □

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## Tim Hortons a big part of Canadian identity

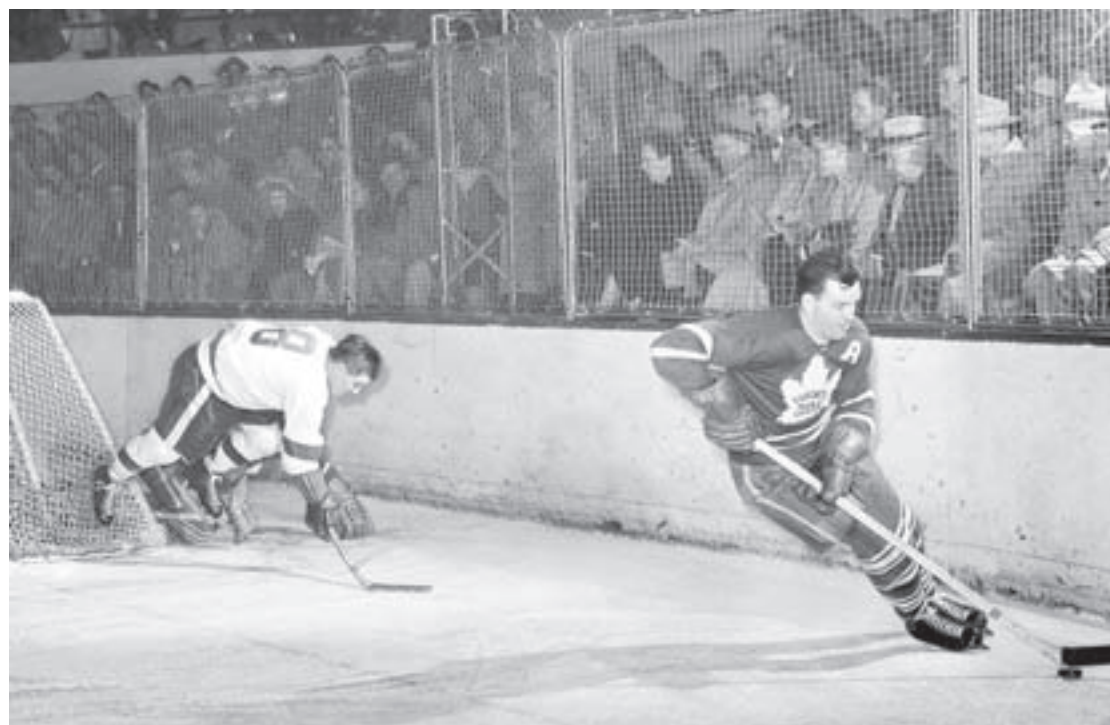
**ROB GILLIES**

**Associated Press**

**TORONTO (AP)** — Few things unite Canadians the way Tim Hortons does. For half a century, they have warmed themselves on chilly mornings with the chain's coffee and Timbits — or doughnut holes to Americans.

So news this week that Burger King will buy Tim Hortons served as a bit-sweet reminder of how beloved the homegrown chain is in Canada, where 75 percent of the all the coffee sold at fast food restaurants comes from "Timmy's," as it is affectionately known. Tim Hortons is found in just about every small town and large city across Canada, and hockey-mad Canadians often head to their local Timmy's before or after their kids' games. Tim Hortons, in a bid to quell any concerns that its distinctly Canadian brand could be watered down, went out of its way to assure that the red and brown coffee and doughnut shop won't change, taking out big ads in newspapers and declaring "fellow Canadians can all rest assured that Tim Hortons will still be Tim Hortons following this transaction."

The chain's aura in Canada comes from its namesake: hockey Hall of Famer Tim Horton, the co-founder who died at 44 in a 1974 car accident after playing in a game for the Buffalo Sabres. In a long run with Canada's most popular NHL team, the Toronto Maple Leafs, the defenseman won four Stanley Cups, including Toronto's last in 1967. That, and the chain's omnipresence, puts his fame in Canada on the order of a New York Yankees baseball legend like Mick-



**In this March 5, 1954, file photo, Toronto Maple Leaf's Tim Horton, right, outmaneuvers Detroit Red Wings' Tony Leswick (8) who falls to the ice during the first period of an NHL hockey game in Detroit. Few things unite Canadians the way Tim Hortons does. For half a century, they have warmed themselves on chilly mornings with the chain's coffee and Timbits — or doughnut holes to Americans. The chain's aura in Canada comes from its namesake: hockey Hall of Famer Tim Horton, the co-founder who died at 44 in a 1974 car accident after playing in a game for the Buffalo Sabres.**

**(AP Photo)**

ey Mantle or Yogi Berra. "Tim Hortons is iconic in terms of Canada and I wouldn't like to see that diluted," said Daraius Bharucha, a 46-year old teacher from Ajax, Ontario, and a customer since he immigrated to Canada from India 21 years ago. Bharucha said the first thing he does when he returns home to Canada from a vacation is visit the local Timmy's. He knows he's home. "Even among new Canadians the idea of going to a Timmy's has become part of the vocabulary," he added. While the takeover by Burger King, which is based in Miami but controlled by a Brazilian private equity fund, is getting much attention in Canada, it's not causing panic. U.S.-based Wendy's recently owned Tim Hortons and its brand remained intact. Wendy's then spun off Tim Hortons

as a separate company in 2006 after more than a decade of ownership. In the meantime, Tim Hortons kept expanding and now has 4,546 restaurants, including 3,630 in Canada, 866 in the United States and 50 in the Persian Gulf. Both Burger King and Tim Hortons vow they will continue to be run independently. So don't expect to see Timbits alongside Whoppers on Burger King menus. The global corporate headquarters of the two chains will be based in Oakville, Ontario, and the move is viewed as being driven by Burger King's desire for a tax haven. The Canadian government welcomed the deal. Prime Minister Stephen Harper's spokesman said the government has been "reducing business taxes and creating jobs and boosting in-

vestment, making Canada one of the best countries in the world to do business." Harper previously celebrated the return of Tim Horton's corporate headquarters to Canada in 2009 with a speech that talked about Timbits and the equally famous "double-double" coffee of two sugars and two creams. "Millions of Canadian hockey parents like me know well that when it is 20 degrees below zero and everyone is up for a 6 a.m. practice, nothing motivates the team more than a box of Timbits, and nothing warms the parents in the stands better than a hot double-double," Harper said then. Harper also quoted Canadian author Pierre Berton, who said "In so many ways the story of Tim Hortons is the essential Canadian story. □

## 2 women facing serious charges as flight returns

**TORONTO (AP)** — Two Canadian women are facing charges after authorities say they drank their duty free alcohol in the flight's bathroom, triggered the fire alarm with a cigarette and got into a fight each other, forcing a Sunwing flight bound for Cuba to return to Toronto under a military escort.

Peel Region police Thursday said Lilia Ratmanski, 25, and Milana Muzikante, 26, have been charged with smoking on board an aircraft and endangering its safety.

The airline said the flight had left Toronto late Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 when it was disrupted by "two unruly female passengers."

Sunwing vice-president Janine Chapman said the passengers had consumed a "significant quantity of their duty-free alcohol purchase in the lavatory." She said they lit a cigarette, triggering the smoke alarm, and "proceeded to get into a physical altercation with each other and made a threat against the aircraft."

NORAD said it scrambled two CF-18 fighter jets based out of Bagotville, Quebec, to escort Flight 656 back to Toronto.

Major Julie Roberge, a spokeswoman for NORAD based in Colorado Springs, Colo., said the CF-18s met the aircraft at the Canadian border and did not venture into American airspace.

She said the pilot had decided to turn the plane around over South Carolina and "that's when NORAD got involved," adding there was no escort in U.S. airspace. □





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Kate commented that she will never change her vacation island for any other one and she always travels with the family to the island.

Top reasons for returning provided by the honorees were they consider Aruba to be the "Happy Island", the great weather, friendly Aruban hospitality, white sand beaches and the great local food.

In the photos Mr. Croes from ATA is seen honoring Charles & Catherine together with hotel representatives Frank & Germaine at the Radisson Resort & Casino. □





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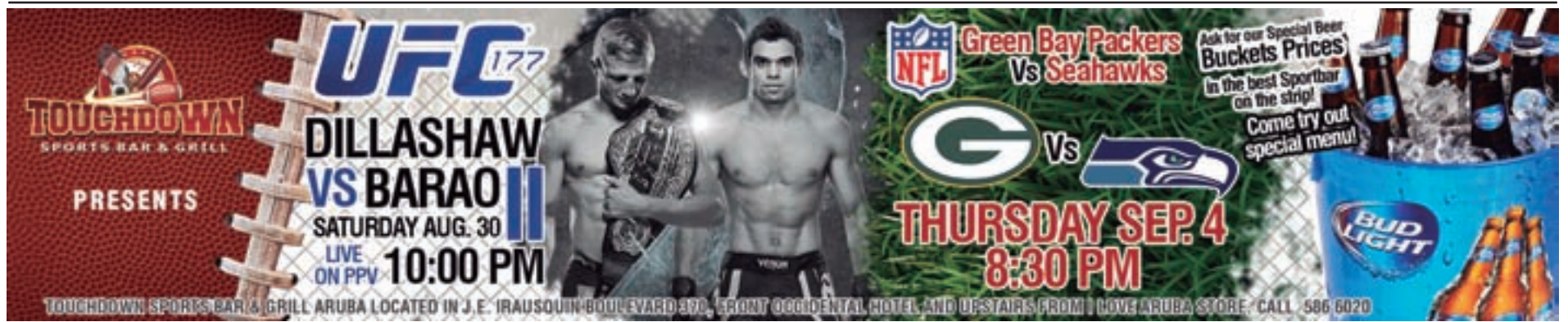
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**PALM BEACH** – You are cordially invited to this week's FRANK event, being held at the Sandbar in Aruba. Sandbar, which is now officially operating under Brickell Bay Beach Club & Spa Boutique Hotel, has initiated the Friday Afternoon Drink, the so called FRANK at SAND. This happy hour from 5pm until 7pm is to provide local professionals and tourists a classy, upscale and Caribbean Chic venue with very reasonably priced drinks, open air seating with shading, music provided by a DJ and free snacks. A couple of guests attending the most recent FRANK were interviewed: Melissa Kromopawiro, Financial Controller at Romar Trading: This is the first time I came here without it being for a private party, I find the ambience very relaxing and I appreciate that they have free snacks. DJ Vibes is playing really good music. Before this I wouldn't really go out for happy hours, certainly not in a closed up place, so this I really like. You can sit outside feeling the tropical breeze of Aruba, in an elegant setting. The prices are really good, the snacks are delicious and as I can see they are being kept warm appropriately according to the FDA guidelines. Angela Tiemens, Radio DJ Fresh Fm: "It's great, especially the prices are really good, the atmosphere is fun and the

snacks are fantastic. The music is good, the location is beautiful. Before this I would go to a local bar inside, but this location is very nice and I really like that you can sit outside in the fresh air. But most of all I like the snacks!" Indroh Kelboom, radio announcer/producer The Morning Show Cool Fm. "I really liked the meatballs! It's great that if you look around, you see people at the bar that are just like us, young professionals that are looking for a nice place to relax, and that is what is going on here at FRANK. Alexander Leonard, Sales Aruba Trading: "Atmosphere is great, the prices are good but most of all I love the snacks. Next time I will tell more colleagues to come with me so that they know there is a nice place for them to go to after work. Even though I work in Oranjestad, it's not a problem to go to Palm Beach." Adele John, Food & Beverage manager at Brickell Bay: "Brickell Bay wanted to organize a happy hour on Friday for the local people to unwind and relax in a nice Caribbean chic atmosphere with affordable prices and free snacks such as chicken wings, meatballs, mini sandwiches and mozzarella sticks. I am very amazed myself, it's so much fun, look at the guests you can see they are having a good time." The FRANK at Sand is an

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<b>Game 5 .....AWG 1500</b>	from 51 to 54 calls AWG 2000,-
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	<b>Game 11 .....AWG 20.000</b>



# Aruba welcomes Robert Jacobvitz and the acclaimed docu-drama 'Disobedience: The Sousa Mendes Story'

**ORANJESTAD** - Foundation "Respetar Bida... Semper Corda!" invited Robert Jacobvitz, founder of the international committee to commemorate Dr Aristides de Sousa Mendes, and currently the State of Florida representative of the Sousa Mendes Foundation to visit the island in the first week of September.

Jacobvitz will present a movie titled Disobedience: The Sousa Mendes Story, about one of the great humanitarian heroes of the Second World, Aristides de Sousa Mendes, who was the Portuguese consul stationed in Bordeaux, France, who despite the threat of the harsh dictatorship of Antonio de Oliveira Salazar began to issue visas to as many refugees as he could, more than 30,000, an estimated 10,000 of them Jewish, so that they could escape to Spain, during the period of Nazi



terror in France.

His noble act led Sousa Mendes to being stripped of his title and ultimately erased from Portuguese history, until the story surfaced in March 17, 1986, when Jacobvitz read about Sousa Mendes heroism in the local newspaper of his hometown Oakland, California. When Jacobvitz read the Sousa Mendes story he felt compelled to make his name known, as the man saved more lives than any other single person during that dark period in history.

As a result of Jacobvitz efforts a movie was made, a gripping docu-drama, and it will be shown in Aruba on September 5th, at Cas Di Cultura. In honor of the occasion Foundation Respetar Bida... Semper Corda, is inviting the Social Work students to attend and participate in the discussion after the viewing, which will be guided by Jacobvitz. Other invitees will be clergy, dignitaries and the members of the foundations.

The film will be shown here in cooperation with the

Sousa Mendes Foundation. Please take a look at the following link for more information: ([http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/10/world/europe/in-portugal-a-protector-of-a-people-is-honored.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/10/world/europe/in-portugal-a-protector-of-a-people-is-honored.html?_r=0))

Jacobvitz is also scheduled to give the Social Work students a workshop on another occasion on his specialty, "Community Social Work & Organizational Development," based on the living evidence of the Sousa Mendes activism, which is being shown and discussed among different audiences and in the media, around the world.

The goals of foundation "Respetar Bida...Semper Corda!" are to raise awareness for the respect of the rights of every member of the Aruban society. The foundation strives to promote liberty and equality for all local citizens.

In an official statement

board members declared: We must remain vigilant in the face of discrimination, racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia, so that these negative human traits do not raise their ugly heads in Aruba. As a society, we cannot remain indifferent to injustice and/or prejudice.

The foundation's first project, a number of years ago, symbolizing its desire for the improvement of the world was the erection of a statue of Anne Frank in the park in front of the Juliana School. This project included explanatory panels, and the beautification of the park.

Anne Frank is the iconic symbol to never forget that a new Holocaust can happen when a multi-cultural nation fails to reach peaceful co-existence of all races and religions, respecting all differences among its citizens. □

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Serena Williams, of the United States, reacts to the crowd after defeating Vania King, of the United States, during the second round of the 2014 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

## S. Williams overcomes 3 early double-faults to win

HOWARD FENDRICH  
AP Tennis Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Good as she is, even Serena Williams can find it tough to deal with swirling wind, so much so that she double-faulted three times in her first service game Thursday at the U.S. Open.

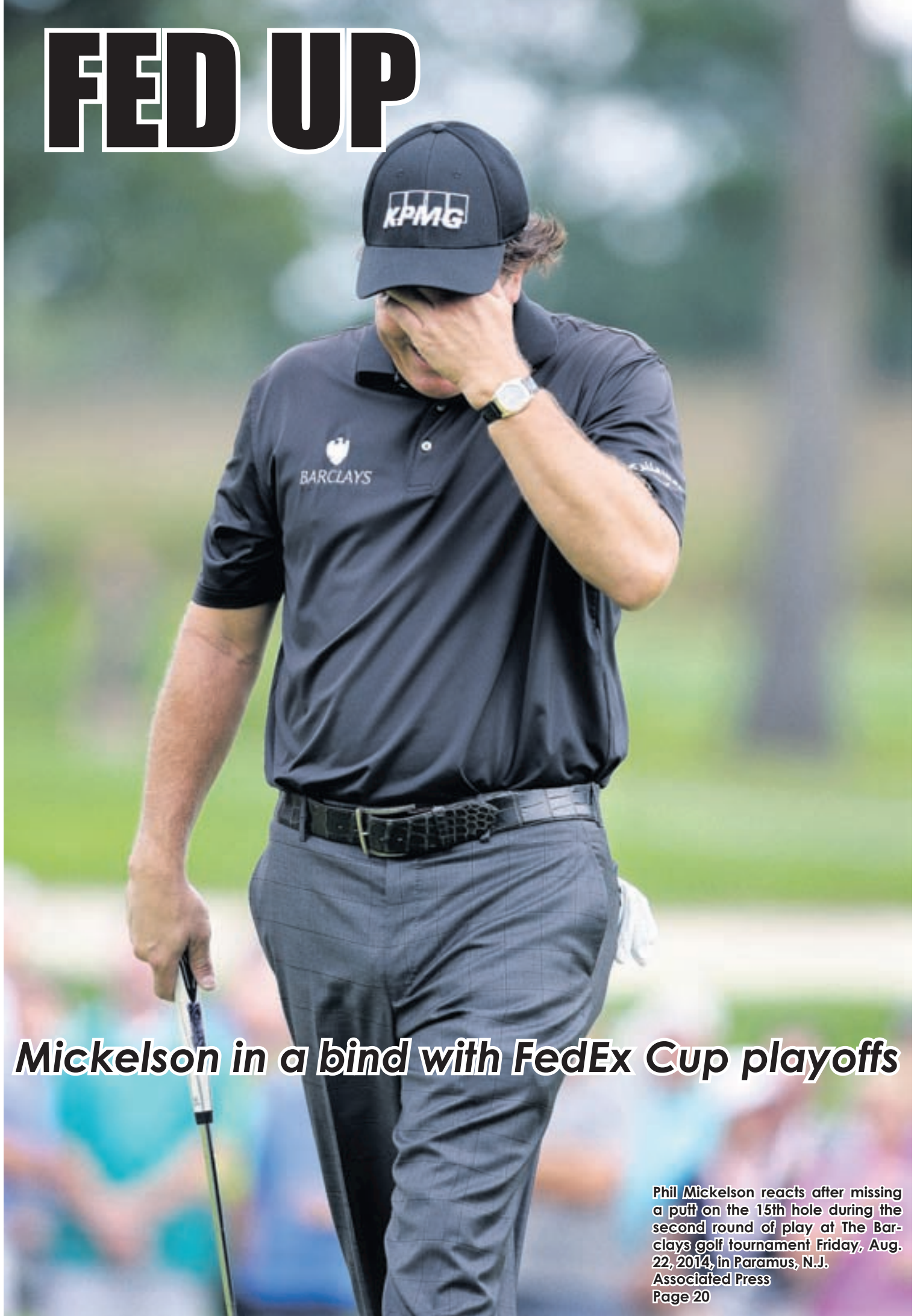
And, yes, even a 17-time major champion such as Williams can lose in the early going at the sport's biggest tournaments, as she has repeatedly in 2014. Quickly putting behind a poor-serving start, and showing absolutely no other signs of the type of up-and-down play that has plagued her at Grand Slams this season, Williams dismissed 81st-ranked American Vania King 6-1, 6-0 in 56 minutes to reach the third round.

"She never let me in," said King, who is 25. "She's played at such a high level for so long, and I used to watch when I was a kid, growing up.

Continued on next page

# FED UP

## Mickelson in a bind with FedEx Cup playoffs



Phil Mickelson reacts after missing a putt on the 15th hole during the second round of play at The Barclays golf tournament Friday, Aug. 22, 2014, in Paramus, N.J.  
Associated Press  
Page 20



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## U.S. Open

Continued from page 17

So it's kind of surreal to see the person that you've been watching on TV in front of you and playing. It was difficult."

While buzz around the tournament grounds built all day waiting for 15-year-old CiCi Bellis to play her second-round match at night, Williams ran her U.S. Open winning streak to 16 matches as she tries to become the first woman to win three consecutive titles at Flushing Meadows since Chris Evert took four in a row from 1975-78.

For the moment, the 32-year-old Williams wants to stay focused on avoiding the sort of problems she had at the Australian Open (where she lost in the fourth round), French Open (second round) and Wimbledon (third round). Not since 2006 has she failed to reach at least one major final in a year — and she only entered two Slams that season.

So far this week, she's left the trouble to others, and Williams could wind up being the beneficiary. A pair of other past major champions, No. 8 Ana Ivanovic and No. 24 Sam Stosur, lost Thursday, as did No. 23 Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova

and No. 27 Madison Keys, bringing the total to 11 seeded women gone after only two rounds.

Williams could have faced Stosur — the woman who beat her in the 2011 U.S. Open final — in the fourth round, and 2008 French Open winner Ivanovic in the quarterfinals.

"You always hear about who is winning, who is losing. You hear about upsets. But for me, especially lately, I have to worry about my first round, my second round, and my third round. I can't get too far ahead of myself," Williams said.

"I was a casualty before, so ... I can't make anything of it," she said of the rash of seeded losers. "At this point, I'm trying to stay alive."

After her singles victory, Williams went out and paired with older sister Venus for a first-round win in doubles. She last time Serena was seen competing in doubles at a major, last month at Wimbledon, she looked disoriented in warmups, then served four consecutive double-faults and quit after three games, saying she was ill.

Ivanovic had seven double-faults among her whopping 29 unforced errors in a 7-5, 6-4 loss to 42nd-ranked Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Repub-



Ana Ivanovic, of Serbia, returns a shot against Kirolina Pliskova, of the Czech Republic, during the second round of the 2014 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014, in New York. Associated Press

lic, who occasionally plays doubles with her twin sister and never had been to the third round at a major.

Ivanovic, a former No. 1, wraps up 2014 with only one major quarterfinal to her credit, at the Australian Open.

"I had great lead-ups to every Grand Slam. I played a lot of matches and won lot of matches," she said. "At the Grand Slams I just haven't performed that well."

Stosur, meanwhile, was edged 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (8) by

50th-ranked Kaia Kanepi of Estonia.

There have been fewer surprises among the men so far, and only one seeded player was sent packing Thursday afternoon, when No. 28 Guillermo Garcia-Lopez of Spain was defeated by Sam Querrey of the United States 6-3, 6-4, 6-4. Querrey now faces an even tougher task: He takes

on No. 1-ranked and No. 1-seeded Novak Djokovic. Among the noteworthy results Thursday was the 7-6 (2), 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 win by Victor Estrella Burgos of the Dominican Republic against Borna Coric of Croatia. Playing in the U.S. Open for the first time at age 34, Estrella Burgos eliminated a player half his age in the 17-year-old Coric.

## Galaxy 4, United 1 LA Galaxy wins 4-1 at home vs. DC United

**CARSON, Calif. (AP)** — Los Angeles beat D.C. United 4-1 on Wednesday for its third straight win, moving within three points of the lead in Major League Soccer's Western Conference.

The Galaxy built a 3-0 lead at halftime. Alan Gordon scored into an empty net after just 63 seconds, Omar Gonzalez got on the end of a Landon Donovan corner in the 25th minute and Baggio Husidic redirected a cross in first-half stoppage time.

D.C. United pulled a goal back in the 58th minute, but Donovan snuffed out any hopes of a comeback by the visitors by converting a penalty in the 75th minute.

The Washington club missed a chance to build on its one-point lead atop the Eastern Conference.

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# NFL increases penalties for domestic violence

HOWARD FENDRICH  
AP Pro Football Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — NFL players will be subject to a six-week suspension for a first domestic violence offense and banishment from the league for a second under a new policy outlined by Commissioner Roger Goodell.

In a letter and memo sent to all 32 teams owners Thursday, and obtained by The Associated Press, Goodell says he "didn't get it right" in giving Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice a two-game suspension for allegedly hitting the woman who is now his wife.

Goodell told teams to distribute to all players the memo in which he writes: "Domestic violence and sexual assault are wrong. They are illegal. They are never acceptable and have no place in the NFL under any circumstances." The memo says that violations of the league's personal conduct policy "regarding assault, battery, domestic violence and sexual assault that involve physical force will be subject to enhanced discipline."

The personal conduct policy is not subject to collective bargaining with the players' union, and the commissioner has leeway to impose punishments for such off-field violations.

An initial offense of this sort will draw a six-week ban without pay, although the memo says "more severe discipline will be imposed if there are aggravating circumstances such as the presence or use of a weapon, choking, repeated striking, or when the act is committed against a pregnant woman or in the presence of a child."

In the case of a suspension for a second offense, the memo says, a player "may petition for reinstatement after one year but there is no assurance that the petition will be granted."

The punishment for Rice drew plenty of attention, including from Congress,

and numerous groups that advocate for women and families criticized the penalty as too lenient.

Rice's suspension begins Saturday, about six months after grainy video showed

him dragging his then-fiancee off a casino elevator. Rice has never said exactly what happened in the elevator; he has said his actions were "totally inexcusable." □



In this May 23, 2014, file photo, Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice, right, speaks alongside his wife, Janay, during a news conference, Friday, May 23, in Owings Mills, Md.

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## Mickelson in a bind with 4 straight playoff events

**DOUG FERGUSON**

**AP Golf Writer**

**NORTON, Mass. (AP)** — Phil

Mickelson isn't a fan of four straight FedEx Cup playoff events that follows a summer of big events and precedes the Ryder Cup.

Mickelson thought about skipping the Deutsche Bank Championship this week. Instead, the five-time major champion showed up at the TPC Boston on Thursday and didn't even warm up before his pro-am round.

He had not touched a club since he missed the 54-hole cut Saturday at The Barclays.

"I'm in a bit of predicament, and the predicament is this," Mickelson said. "The tour does not own their four or five largest revenue-producing events. We don't own the majors or the Ryder Cup. The FedEx Cup is really our flagship event. As a player that has received so much from the PGA Tour, there's an obligation there to support the FedEx Cup. So I want to play and I want to there."

"The tough thing for me is I don't ever play a month in a row outside the West Coast where I'm living at home."

The crowded schedule for Mickelson began with his title defense of the Scottish Open and the British Open. After a short week off, the World Golf Championship was at Firestone, followed by the PGA Championship, and then after a week off, Mickelson faced four straight playoff events. Maybe.

He is at No. 57 in the FedEx Cup, and only the top 70 reached the third playoff event next week at Cherry Hills in Denver. Mickelson won the 1990 U.S. Amateur at Cherry Hills. He and Furyk are the only players in the FedEx Cup to have com-

gave birth to their first child on Monday.

The Deutsche Bank Championship, for the top 100 in the FedEx Cup, has 93 players, its smallest field ever.

The PGA Tour, at the request of the PGA of America, stacked the playoff

the week before the Ryder Cup ... I mean, the charter is out of Atlanta, for crying out loud. Why don't we just go out of Atlanta? We would have had a week in between somewhere and just split them up. That's not how it worked out. I didn't

said he considered playing the Wales Open the week before the Ryder Cup but it didn't work out.

"This year it's been a rough schedule," he said.

Mickelson won the Deutsche Bank Championship in 2007 and said it's



**Phil Mickelson greets fans as he walks on the course during the second round of play at The Barclays golf tournament Friday, Aug. 22, 2014, in Paramus, N.J.**

**Associated Press**

peted there.

"I may not be in next week," Mickelson said. "I may not be in the Tour Championship, and I may not have to worry about playing four in a row. So we'll see."

Sergio Garcia (No. 15) and Justin Rose (No. 20) are taking off this week to rest. So is Graeme McDowell (No. 40), who is assured of being in Denver. McDowell's wife

events together for a week off before the Ryder Cup on Sept. 26-28 in Scotland. Four years ago, there was a week off between the BMW Championship and the Tour Championship, and then the U.S. team took a charter out of Atlanta to Wales.

"If it were up to me — which it isn't — I thought that the Tour Championship being

have a say in that."

PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem said last week the FedEx Cup would not be four straight weeks in a row after this year.

Mickelson prefers to play the week before major events, particularly in Europe so that he can get adjusted to the time change and get in a competitive frame of mind. He

one of his favorite courses. But he said he would have skipped it if he were in better position in the FedEx Cup and was assured of being in Denver.

At least the end is near. Mickelson said he would play hard through the Ryder Cup and then not play again until 2014, which means he won't be playing overseas this year. □



# Davis homers again, Bucs beat Wainwright

The Associated Press

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Ike Davis hit a two-run homer off a speaker above the seats in right-center field, Jeff Locke outpitched Adam Wainwright and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the St. Louis Cardinals 3-1 Wednesday. Pittsburgh took two of three from the defending NL champions and has won five of seven overall. St. Louis (71-61) leads the NL wild-card race, with San Francisco (70-62) trailing by a half-game and the Pirates (69-64) 1 1-2 games back of the Giants for the second wild-card berth.

Davis hit his 10th homer in the second after Wainwright hit Russell Martin on the left elbow with a pitch that Martin barely tried to avoid. Davis sent an 88 mph pitch clanking off a speaker raised on a pole about 15 feet above the seats, a drive estimated at about 433 feet.

A night earlier, Davis had a pinch-hit, tiebreaking three-run homer in the eighth inning of Pittsburgh's 5-2 win.

Locke (6-3) allowed one run and six hits in 7 1-3 innings, giving up Matt Holliday's third-inning homer. Locke also singled in the third and scored on Andrew McCutchen's sacrifice fly, just the 11th hit for the pitcher in 98 career at-bats.

Mark Melancon pitched a one-hit ninth for his 24th save in 28 chances.

## BRAVES 3, METS 2

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Jason Heyward hit a leadoff home run off Zack Wheeler, and Julio Teheran won his third straight start. Hayward connected on Wheeler's third pitch of the game for his 11th homer this season. After Wil Flores' home run tied the score in the second, the Braves went ahead for good in the third. Phil Gosselin reached on a bunt single, Freddie Freeman doubled, Justin

Upton hit an RBI ground-out and shortstop Ruben Tejada allowed Evan Gattis' two-out bouncer to pop out of his glove for a run-scoring error.

Teheran (13-9) gave up three hit in 6 1-3 innings, struck out four and walked two.

Craig Kimbrel got his 39th save in 43 chances.

## REDS 7, CUBS 5

**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Skip Schumaker drove in a pair of runs with a double and a single, and the Reds withstood Jorge Soler's first at-bat homer and his RBI single.

Soler, a 22-year-old prospect from Cuba, was called up Wednesday after getting a nine-year, \$30 million deal from the Cubs in 2012.

He started in right field and batted fifth.

After Luis Valbuena led off the second inning with a homer off Mat Latos (5-3), Soler hit a 2-1 pitch into the Reds' bullpen in center field. The last Cub to homer in his first at-bat also did it in Cincinnati: Starlin Castro off Homer Bailey on May 7, 2010.

Soler also had an RBI single off Jonathan Broxton in the eighth, cutting it to 6-5. Latos pitched into the eighth and gave up four runs while fanning a season-high 10 batters.

Pinch-hitter Chris Heisey homered in the bottom of the inning. Aroldis Chapman escaped a two-on threat in the ninth, getting his 28th save in 30 chances.

## PHILLIES 8, NATIONALS 4

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Pinch-hitter Grady Sizemore hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the sixth inning, helping the Phillies complete a three-game sweep.

Marlon Byrd hit a two-run homer and Jimmy Rollins hit a solo shot to back Kyle Kendrick (7-11). The right-hander allowed four runs and seven hits in six innings.



Pittsburgh Pirates' Ike Davis, center, rounds second past St. Louis Cardinals second baseman Daniel Descalso after hitting a two-run home run off St. Louis Cardinals' starting pitcher Adam Wainwright during the second inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2014.

Associated Press

The last-place Phillies went 7-2 on their best homestand this season.

Denard Span was 3 for 4 and fell a triple short of the cycle for the Nationals. Doug Fister (12-5) allowed a season-high 10 hits and five runs — four earned — in 5 2-3 innings.

The Nationals had won 12 of 13 before losing three in a row in Philadelphia.

## GIANTS 4, ROCKIES 2

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Buster Posey hit a game-ending two-run shot for his third homer in two nights, sending the Giants to Bruce Bochy's 1,600th managerial victory.

Posey sent an 0-1 pitch from Juan Nicasio (5-6) just inside the left-field foul pole for his 18th homer of the year and second ca-

reer walkoff homer. He also had one on May 3, 2013, against the Dodgers.

Santiago Casilla (2-3), who was ill Tuesday, plunked leadoff hitter Drew Stubbs in the back to start the ninth. Justin Morneau then doubled him home to tie the game at 2. Casilla got a key double play to get out of the inning.

Tim Hudson's strong eighth-inning, eight-strikeout outing was wasted.

## PADRES 3, BREWERS 2

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Rene Rivera tied the game with a home run in the ninth inning, then won it with an RBI single in the 10th for San Diego.

Rivera opened the ninth with his shot off Francisco Rodriguez. In the 10th, Seth Smith walked and Yasmani

Grandal singled to start the inning against Zach Duke (4-1). Smith was thrown out at third on a fielder's choice and, one out later, Rivera singled to center to drive in Grandal from second.

Dale Thayer (4-3) pitched the 10th for the victory.

The Brewers took a 2-0 lead in the seventh inning on Elian Herrera's RBI double and a passed ball charged to Rivera.

Jake Goebbert's RBI single in the bottom of the inning pulled the Padres to 2-1.

## DODGERS 3, DIAMONDBACKS 1

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Clayton Kershaw allowed only an unearned run in eight innings to become the first 16-game winner in the majors. □

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## World Cup Preview

# Weakened U.S. team aims for world basketball title

**BRIAN MAHONEY**

**AP Basketball Writer**

**BILBAO, Spain (AP)** — The bad news just kept coming, the only difference whether the culprit was injury or interest.

Some stars couldn't play. Others wouldn't. Then the losses really started piling up for the U.S. national basketball team.

Kevin Love pulled out while awaiting his recently completed trade to Cleveland. Paul George broke his right leg in a horrific collision that shook up teammates and perhaps the future of international basketball. Finally, Kevin Durant, the Americans' best player and the NBA's MVP, changed his mind about taking part in the FIBA Basketball World Cup.

The U.S. team that remains is good enough to win but vulnerable enough to lose — perhaps to the Spain squad that was so close against much more powerful Americans in the last two Olympics and could get a third shot on its home court.

"We still have a goal and



**United States' Derrick Rose (6), of the Chicago Bulls, drives between Brazil's Anderson Varejao (11), of the Cleveland Cavaliers, and Brazil's Raulzinho Neto (5) during the second half of an exhibition basketball game Saturday, Aug. 16, 2014, in Chicago.**  
Associated Press

that's to win gold, and we can't (say), 'Oh, Kevin dropped out, Paul got hurt, so this is going to be tough

for us,'" U.S. center Anthony Davis said. "We hear everybody saying that. We're trying to prove that

wrong."

The former world basketball championship begins Saturday at four sites throughout Spain and the Canary Islands. The Americans start a fairly benign group here in Basque Country against Finland, with Spain facing the most powerful pool in Granada, joined by European champion France, Brazil and Serbia.

Eight teams will advance to Barcelona and the other eight to Madrid for the knockout rounds. The gold-medal game is Sept. 14 in Madrid, the only time the U.S. and Spain could meet. The Americans held off the Spanish in Olympic thrillers in 2008 and 2012, fueled by LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Chris Paul and Carmelo Anthony. It would now be up to a much younger U.S. squad — its youngest featuring professionals — led by Davis, Stephen Curry, Derrick Rose, James Harden and Kyrie Irving.

And if they win, USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo said it would be even sweeter than the Olympic victories.

"When you have expectations based on what you think you had, and you get dealt those blows and you recover and you're able to still get the job done, it's sweet," Colangelo said. "That's why I said what I did."

Other contenders are also short-handed.

Tony Parker is taking the summer off instead of playing for France, and Spurs teammate Manu Ginobili can't suit up for Argentina because of a lingering leg injury. Lithuania starting point guard Mantas Kalnietas was lost to a shoulder injury Tuesday in an exhibition game, weakening a potential semifinal opponent for the Americans.

That could leave Spain as the team arriving in the best shape, a skilled and veteran unit featuring Pau Gasol, Marc Gasol and Serge Ibaka up front and Jose Calderon, Ricky Rubio, Rudy Fernandez and Juan Carlos Navarro in the backcourt. The 2006 world

champions went 8-0 in exhibition play.

"It's a very special opportunity to try and achieve something big, which is nothing other than to be world champions again," Pau Gasol told FIBA.com recently. "It would be incredible to achieve this at home but in order to do that, we need to follow a lot of steps, compete at the highest level, give everything and enjoy every moment."

The Americans were beaten by Greece in the semifinals of the '06 worlds but haven't lost since, running off 54 straight victories. They are the only team deep enough to withstand the kind of player losses they've faced and still be considered by many the team to beat.

"They have a great team and I think they are the favorite in this world championship," Slovenia's Edo Murić said after the Americans' 101-71 exhibition victory in the Canary Islands on Tuesday.

But they are young, with an average age of just 24.08 years, about a half-year younger than the 2010 championship team that featured holdovers Curry, Rose, and Rudy Gay. That might seem old in the future if NBA owners, in the wake of George's injury, push to re-examine the policy of allowing veteran players to compete internationally.

For now, youth is another obstacle the Americans face as they try to repeat as world champions for the first time.

"I feel old. I'm like the third-oldest guy on the team compared to back then," the 26-year-old Curry said. "We were all 21 and 22 year olds, couple of vets, so we're all at different parts of our career right now. More experienced, and having that experience in Turkey to rely on for myself, D-Rose ... and Rudy hopefully can lead this team where we want to go. "We definitely have high expectations for what we're trying to do." □

## Alejandro Valverde of Spain wins 6th Vuelta stage

**LA ZUBIA, Spain (AP)** — Alejandro Valverde of Spain surged forward to win the sixth stage of the Spanish Vuelta and take the overall lead on Thursday.

The 31-year-old Movistar rider climbed to the finish line in 4 hours, 35 minutes, 27 seconds, just ahead of Christopher Froome of Britain and Spain's Alberto Contador, who both finished in the same time.

Two-time Vuelta winner Valverde takes the overall lead on 22 hours, 48 minutes, 8 seconds, ahead of Nairo Quintana of Colombia who is 15 seconds behind and Contador who is 18 seconds back. Fourth-place Joaquin Rodriguez was eight seconds back.

Race conditions along the a 167-kilometer (104 miles) ride from Benalmadena

to La Zubia were very hot, reaching close to 40 degrees Centigrade (104 Fahrenheit), and riders were seen drinking and pouring water over themselves regularly.

Rodriguez pushed forward with 600 meters to go but Valverde and Froome kept pace, with Quintana lagging behind in the heat.

"Although I've won, it's very difficult to have a good time in this heat," said Valverde. "I was maintaining a good rhythm and when Rodriguez broke I went after him and had enough strength to finish him off."

Just after the category-two Alto de Zafarraya climb, 85 kilometers into the race, Pim Ligthart and Lluís Mas broke away from

the pack and established a 14-minute lead.

Mas gave up trying to keep up with Ligthart with four kilometers to go and the pack overtook the breakaways on the final ascent, 2.5 kilometers before the finish.

"I couldn't have imagined finishing among the first 10 riders and look, I nearly challenged for a stage victory," said Contador, who fractured his right shin in a crash during the 10th stage of the Tour de France on July 15.

Friday's stage is a hilly 169 kilometer (105 mile) ride from Alhendin to Alcaudete and is expected to be raced in hot conditions.

The 21-stage race ends in Santiago de Compostela on Sept. 14. □



# Visual search to shop: gimmick or game changing?

MAE ANDERSON

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Imagine using your phone to snap a photo of the cool pair of sunglasses your friend is wearing and instantly receiving a slew of information about the shades along with a link to order them.

It's a great idea — but it doesn't quite work.

Though many companies are trying to make "visual search" a reality, this seemingly simple notion remains elusive.

Take Amazon, which made visual search a key feature in its new Fire smartphone. The e-commerce company says the feature, known as Firefly, can recognize 100 million items. It's similar to a Flow feature Amazon has on its apps for other phones.

So far, Firefly can reliably make out labels of products such as Altoids or Celestial Seasonings tea. That makes it easy to buy items such as groceries online.

But try it on a checkered shirt or anything without sharp corners, and no such luck.

"It works really well when we can match an image to the product catalog," says Mike Torres, an Amazon executive who works on the Fire's software. "Where things are rounded or don't have (visual markers) to latch on to, like a black shoe, it's a little harder to do image recognition."

Visual search is important to retailers because it makes mobile shopping a snap — literally.

It's much easier to take a picture than to type in a description of something you want. Shopping on cell-phones and tablets is still a small part of retail sales, but it's growing quickly. That makes it important to simplify the process as much as possible — especially as people look to visual sites such as Instagram and Pinterest as inspiration for purchases.

"Retailers are trying to get the user experience simple enough so people are willing to buy on their phones, not just use it as a research

tool," eMarketer analyst Yory Wurmser said.

Mobile software that scans codes, such as QR codes and UPC symbols, are fairly common. Creating apps that consistently recognize images and objects has been more challenging. Forrester analyst Sucharita Mulpuru believes it could take at least three more years.

Since 2009, Google's Goggles app for Android has succeeded in picking up logos and landmarks. But Google says on its website that the app is "not so good" at identifying cars, furniture and clothes in photos. What's holding visual search back?

The technology works by analyzing visual characteristics, or points, such as color, shape and texture. Amazon's Firefly, for example, identifies a few hundred points to identify a book and up to 1,000 for paintings. U.K. startup Cortextica uses 800 to 1,500 points to create a virtual fingerprint for the image. It then scans its database of about 4 million images for a match.

Without easily identifiable markers, non-labeled objects are difficult to identify. Lighting conditions, photo quality, distance, angles and other factors can throw the technology off. Visual search works best when there is a clearly defined image on a white background.

Some retailers are finding success with visual search by keeping the selection of searchable products limited.

Target's new "In a Snap" app works only with items from its Room Essentials furniture, bedding and decor line. And it works only when snapping a product image in a magazine ad, not when you see the actual product on a shelf. When a shopper scans the ad, items pop up for the shopper to add to a shopping cart.

Heels.com, an online shoe retailer, keeps visual search limited to shoes. Shoppers upload pictures or send links of shoes and are offered similar pairs for sale

on the company's website. "People shop through images nowadays," Heels.com CEO Eric McCoy says. "We want to give them the exact shoe, or something similar."

So, the race is on to perfect the technology that will create smartphone apps that easily recognize objects in a real-world environment.

Cortextica's founders spent seven years on academic research before forming the company in 2009. Since then, it has been trying to mold the technology work more like the human brain when it comes to identifying objects.

"Someday you'll be taking a picture of a whole person, and it will identify the different things they're wearing and offer recommendations," says Iain McCready, CEO of Cortextica.

□



This undated image provided by Amazon shows the company's Firefly app. A key feature of Amazon's new Fire smartphone is its Firefly service, a visual search feature, which also has modes for music and video.

Associated Press

## New Samsung smartwatch won't need companion phone



This undated product image provided by Samsung shows the Gear S watch. Samsung unveiled the new Gear S, the company's fourth major smartwatch in a year, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014.

Associated Press

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — With the holiday shopping season coming, Samsung and LG unveiled small improvements to their computerized wristwatches to try to sway shoppers.

Samsung's latest version can do more without a smartphone to go with it. LG's has a round screen. Apple is also believed to be working on its own

smartwatch, and could announce it at a Sept. 9 event. Smartwatches are another product technology companies can offer since many people already have smartphones and tablet computers. But companies have yet to make a strong case for why everyday consumers need smartwatches, especially when so far they have had little functionality without a phone nearby.

Samsung's new Gear S, the company's fourth major smartwatch in a year, will have 3G cellular connectivity so that it can receive notifications directly from social networks, calendars and other apps. The Gear S promises to offer turn-by-turn walking directions using mapping data from Nokia's Here service. It also promises to make and receive phone calls, though it's not clear how that will work without its own phone number.

For this watch, Samsung Electronics Co. is using a fledgling operating system called Tizen rather than Google's Android Wear,

which Google has promoted as a way for the same apps to work with watches from competing manufacturers. The new watch will have a screen that measures 2 inches diagonally, which is slightly larger than those on Samsung's previous watches. The display will be curved to fit better around the wrist.

Samsung on Thursday also unveiled a headset called Gear Circle.

Both products will be available starting in October, though the company didn't say whether they will be available in the U.S. then. Prices weren't announced. LG Electronics Inc., meanwhile, unveiled a watch with a 1.3-inch circular screen — a departure from the rectangular design found in previous smartwatches from LG and others. Like the G Watch that came out in June, the new G Watch R will use Google's Android Wear system. LG said nothing about prices and release dates other than to say the watch will come out early in the fourth quarter. □



# Wall Street ends slightly lower; retailers fall

**ALEX VEIGA**  
**AP Business Writer**

U.S. financial markets ended slightly lower Thursday, marking their first loss in a week of record highs. The escalating conflict in Ukraine, disappointing retail earnings and profit outlooks combined to weigh down the market, eclipsing some good news on the U.S. economy and labor market.

"The key driver was largely the Ukraine news and the uncertainty of what that means," said Erik Davidson, deputy chief investment officer at Wells Fargo Private Bank.

U.S. stock index futures pointed to a lower opening in premarket trading Thursday, following a downward turn in global stock markets as traders reacted to the developments in Ukraine.

Ukraine President Petro Poroshenko said Russian forces had entered his country. He called an emergency meeting of the nation's security council. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note declined as investors sought out lower-risk assets. A string of disappointing earnings and profit outlooks late Wednesday and early Thursday also weighed on the market early on. Not all the news was discouraging.

The Commerce Department estimated that the U.S. economy grew at an annual rate of 4.2 percent

in the April-June quarter. The Labor Department added to the good news, saying the number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits slipped last week to 298,000, a low level that signals employers are cutting fewer jobs and hiring is likely to remain

points, or 0.2 percent, to 1,996.74. The index hit record highs the first three days of the week. The Dow Jones industrial average slid 42.44 points, or 0.3 percent, to 17,079.57. The Nasdaq composite shed 11.93 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,557.69.

Williams-Sonoma tumbled 12 percent after the cookware and home furnishings company issue a disappointing full-year profit outlook late Wednesday. The stock shed \$8.96 to \$65.93. Tilly's lost 4.3 percent after the company forecast a difficult summer, not-



**Traders James Doherty, left, and Thomas Ferrigno work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. U.S. financial markets ended slightly lower Thursday, marking their first loss in a week of record highs.**  
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

strong.

"The economic data in the U.S. continues to look quite good," Davidson said. Nonetheless, major U.S. stock indexes opened lower. They pared some of their losses as the day went on, but remained down the rest of the day.

All told, the Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 3.38

Major U.S. indexes are on track to end higher for the month and are up for the year.

Trading volume was lighter than the recent average ahead of the Labor Day holiday.

Investors seized on the lackluster earnings to reduce their holdings in several retailers.

ing customer traffic was down and merchandise discounts were cutting into its profit. The stock slid 37 cents to \$8.15.

Genesco also declined after the apparel and footwear seller issued a profit outlook that was shy of Wall Street's expectations. Genesco sank \$6.73, or 7.6 percent, to \$81.94. □

## Shell submits a plan for Alaskan oil exploration

**CLIFFORD KRAUSS**  
**© 2014 New York Times**

After years of legal and logistical setbacks and dogged opposition from environmentalists, Royal Dutch Shell submitted a plan to the federal government Thursday to try once again to explore for oil in the Alaskan Arctic.

The company emphasized that it had not made a final decision on whether to drill or not next summer, but that the filing with the Interior Department preserved its options. Shell says the program consists of two drilling rigs working simultaneously in the Chukchi Sea, which has the potential to produce more than 400,000 barrels of oil a day.

Over the past eight years Shell's Alaskan Arctic efforts have been plagued by blunders and accidents involving ships and support equipment, climaxing with the grounding of one of its drilling vessels in late December 2012 in stormy seas. Environmental groups seized on the episodes as evidence to support their claims that drilling in the Arctic is overly risky because of ice floes, darkness in winter and the presence of several species of threatened wildlife, including polar bears.

The company, which has spent roughly \$6 billion on the effort, drilled two shallow wells in Alaska's Arctic during 2012. But the federal government did not allow Shell to reach the deeper, oil-bearing formations; the company did not have the required ability to contain spills after the testing failure of a containment dome designed to cap a runaway well and collect oil in case of an accident.

Shell's plans for the Alaskan Arctic have looked doubtful since Ben van Beurden took over as the company's new chief executive nearly nine months ago and pledged to increase discipline on rising costs and improve cash flow.

But in recent weeks, Shell has shown renewed interest in its Alaska efforts by signing an agreement with several Alaska Native corporations to share profits from offshore drilling. □

## Dubai port operator H1 profits up 26 percent

**ADAM SCHRECK**  
**Associated Press**

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Dubai-based port operator DP World said Thursday its profit rose 26 percent in the first half of the year as it was able to process more cargo thanks to new capacity and a pick-up in global trade.

The government-backed cargo handler said it earned \$332 million in profit attributable to its owners during the first six months of 2014, up from \$264 million during the same period a year earlier.

DP World ranks among the

largest port operators, with a heavy emphasis on fast-growing markets in the developing world. It operates more than 65 sea cargo terminals on six continents, with additional projects being developed in India, Africa, Europe and the Middle East. That broad geographic footprint gives it a window onto trade flows around the world.

Its holdings include the new London Gateway port in Britain and Embarport in Brazil. It also runs Dubai's sprawling Jebel Ali seaport, the busiest in the Middle East.

"The addition of new ca-

capacity and a pick-up in global trade has resulted in a return to robust volume growth, which has translated into an impressive financial performance," Chairman Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem said.

Revenue for the first half increased to \$1.66 billion, up from \$1.51 billion a year earlier.

Increased cargo volumes were a key driver of those sales. The company handled the equivalent of 13.9 million standard 20-foot shipping containers at ports it controls during the first half of the year, compared to 12.8 million con-

tainers during the same period a year earlier.

In the short term, CEO Mohammed Sharaf cautioned that geopolitical issues could prove challenging through the end of the year. But executives voiced confidence in the company's future, saying it is well-placed to take advantage of the industry's long-term potential. Sharaf described the company's finances as strong, saying its high cash flow gives it the ability to invest in growth "and the flexibility to make new investments should the right opportunities arise." □



# Lending Club, middleman for small loans, plans an IPO

**MICHAEL J. de la MERCED**  
© 2014 New York Times

Obtaining a loan was once a matter of heading down to the bank and applying. But the technology boom of the last decade has given rise to a new way, where Web-savvy investors can connect directly with would-be borrowers.

Now, by filing Wednesday for an initial public offering, the leader in the so-called peer-to-peer lending industry, Lending Club, plans to test how popular and durable the business model can be. Though companies like Twitter and Uber draw a huge amount of attention in the consumer technology universe, the nearly 8-year-old Lending Club has carved out a special niche online: lending. And in the process, it has garnered fans across Wall Street and Silicon Valley.

Together with competitors like Prosper Marketplace, the company functions largely as an intermediary connecting those with money with those who want it. It is an industry that supporters say is becoming a robust alternative to traditional bank lending and largely sky-high credit-card interest rates.

Since it began making loans in 2007, Lending Club has become the clear leader in the field, overtaking older rivals like Prosper in the process. From its founding through the first half of this year, the company says that it has financed more than \$5 billion worth of loans and paid nearly \$494 million in interest to investors in those loans. That success has fed into high ambitions for future growth, although it is not currently turning a profit. In its prospectus Wednesday, Lending Club listed \$500 million as a preliminary fundraising target - but it could seek to raise even more, according to a person briefed on the matter. That initial goal would still be enough to rank the prospective public offering as one of the 10 biggest stock market debuts of an Internet company. That would put it in the company of Groupon, Orbitz

and other big online consumer brands. It also remains to be seen whether it can sustain the demand

from investors when interest rates rise, which would make other investments like bonds more attractive.

The emergence of Lending Club and others reflects the Silicon Valley determination to shake

up traditional industries using the latest technologies. Its chief executive, Renaud Laplanche, was partly inspired by reading through his mail years ago. His credit card statement listed an interest rate of 17 percent. His savings account disclosed a rate of just 0.5 percent.

"I believe we can transform the current banking system into a frictionless, transparent and highly efficient online marketplace that provides affordable credit to borrowers and creates great investment opportunities for investors, helping millions of people achieve their financial goals," Laplanche wrote in a letter in the prospectus. From the start, the company has focused on relatively safe loans, using advanced computer algorithms that measure borrowers' creditworthiness. □



**Renaud Laplanche, the chief executive of Lending Club, at the peer-to-peer lender's office in Redwood City, Calif. In a prospectus that, if met, would rank it among the 10 largest stock debuts of an internet-based company, Lending Club filed to go public on Aug. 27, 2014.**

(Peter DaSilva/The New York Times)

## Vivendi favors Telefónica's \$9.8B bid for Brazil unit

**CHAD BRAY**  
**MARK SCOTT**  
© 2014 New York Times

The French conglomerate Vivendi said Thursday that it would enter exclusive talks with Telefónica for its telecommunications unit in Brazil after it received two offers for the business earlier in the day.

Telefónica raised its bid Thursday to about \$9.8 billion for Global Village Telecom, which operates a broadband network in Brazil.

Telefónica, which had offered to buy the unit earlier this month, wants to combine the business with its existing mobile and broadband services in Brazil, which operate under the Vivo brand.

The revised bid came shortly after Telecom Italia, one of Telefónica's main rivals in Brazil, offered to pay a combination of cash and shares that valued Global Village Telecom at 7 billion euros (\$9.2 billion).

Vivendi said the Telefónica offer "best meets" its strategic and financial goals, namely to exit the telecommunications business. Vivendi has been selling telecommunications assets

to focus on its media holdings like the Universal Music Group and the French pay-television operator Canal Plus.

"Vivendi begins a new phase in its development to become an integrated industrial group focused on media and content," the company said in a news release.

band networks in Brazil to offset a gradual slowdown in growth in the country's traditional mobile phone market.

The two operators also continue to report sluggish growth in their home markets, and Brazil - despite concerns that its economy is slowing - offers an opportunity to bolster their over-

the region last year.

As of the end of June, Telefónica had about 95 million customer accounts in Brazil, primarily mobile clients. Telecom Italia's Brazilian operations have about 73.4 million customers and annual revenue of about 7 billion euros, the company said.

Telecom Italia had hoped to combine Global Village Telecom with TIM Participações, also known as TIM Brasil, which is controlled by the former Italian monopoly.

Barring a change of heart by Vivendi or a breakdown in negotiations, Telecom Italia may have to look elsewhere to increase the size of its Brazilian business. The Brazilian provider Oi has separately signaled a willingness to pursue its own combination, saying Wednesday that it had hired the investment bank BTG Pactual to explore the possibility of acquiring Telecom Italia's controlling stake in TIM Participações. "Oi will keep its shareholders and the market informed of any material events," the company said in a regulatory filing Wednesday. □



**Men walk out of Telefonica head offices in Madrid. The French conglomerate Vivendi said Thursday that it would enter exclusive talks with Telefónica for its telecommunications unit in Brazil.**

(AP Photo/Paul White)

The proposals pitted Telecom Italia against Telefónica, which through a separate holding company is the largest shareholder of its Italian rival.

The rival bids signaled the desire of both companies to expand their broad-

all revenues.

Telefónica's Brazilian operations, for example, are a main driver of its business in Latin America. The Brazilian unit posted revenue of 12.2 billion euros in 2013 and accounted for 42 percent of Telefónica's revenue in



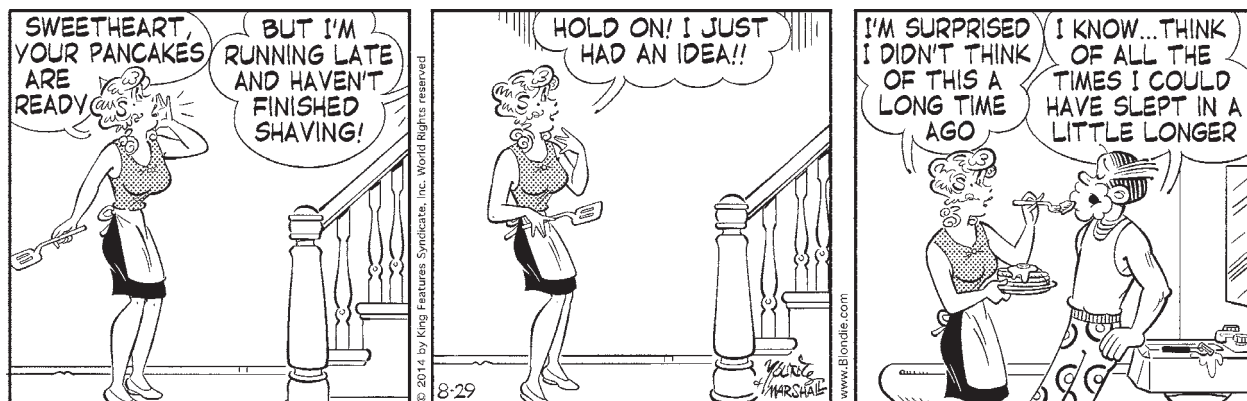
## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Blondie



## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

	2	4			7			
								8
			2	9	8			4
6		5				3		
		9		1		2		
		8				7		5
4			1	2	6			
9								
			5			8	6	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	2	1	7	3	5	4	6	9
4	6	3	1	9	2	7	5	8
5	9	7	8	6	4	2	1	3
9	7	8	5	4	6	3	2	1
3	1	5	2	7	8	9	4	6
6	4	2	9	1	3	8	7	5
1	3	9	6	2	7	5	8	4
7	5	4	3	8	1	6	9	2
2	8	6	4	5	9	1	3	7

## ACROSS

- Staple at Italian meals
- Dishonest way to make money
- Carpet with a thick pile
- Modify
- oneself; work steadily
- Ring of light above a saint
- Ship's poles
- Had debts
- Chief Norse deity
- Violent downpours
- Show up
- Dollar bills
- Sound of dishes being hastily stacked
- Ensnare
- In \_\_\_; speedily
- Zodiac sign
- Shoestrings
- Nylon mishaps
- Injure through rough handling
- Reluctant
- Exchange
- "Turkey in the ..."
- Firebug's crime
- Cotton gin man
- Whitney
- Uncouth
- Become firm
- Up-to-date
- Trick; fool
- Scallions, e.g.
- "...O'er the ... we watched..."
- ... together;
- ... out; become dilapidated
- Boise's state
- Signals to an actor
- "Jane ..."; Brontë novel
- At no time
- In this place
- Oliver or Rex
- Say hello to

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20					21				22	23		
			24				25					
26	27	28				29						
30			31		32			33	34	35	36	
37		38		39			40		41			
42			43		44			45		46		
			47		48			49		50		
51	52	53					54					
55						56				57	58	59
60					61	62			63			
64					65				66			
67					68				69			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/29/14

## Thursday's Puzzle Solved

### DOWN

- In the \_\_\_; before now
- Dog food brand
- Celebrity
- Extreme fear
- Supply of weapons
- Blemishes
- Crow sounds
- Highest spade
- Olympic prizes
- Abbreviates
- "I've \_\_\_"; cry from one who's out of patience
- Still breathing combines
- One doomed
- Kathmandu's nation
- "Phooey!"
- Throws
- Lawn trees
- \_\_\_ as a pin
- Sightseeing trip
- Listens
- Seashore
- Floored
- Violent wind

BET	STABS	SOCK
ATOP	LOCAL	AXLE
ACME	AORTA	LEAN
HEARTLESS	ANNS	
CUES	HEM	
ACROSS	TWILIGHT	
LEECH	BRINK	HER
BANK	DOING	RODE
USA	CORES	GAUGE
MELLOWED	SOILED	
OWN	TOAD	
GAGA	COLORLESS	
AWED	ADAGE	ROAD
LANE	SODAS	SAGE
EYED	TRYST	RAN

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8/29/14

- Team director
- Excessive
- Equestrian
- Was bold
- Uncommon
- Talk wildly
- You, biblically
- Type; variety
- Needle's hole



## Dominican legal status still elusive for migrants

**EZEQUIEL ABIU LOPEZ**

**Associated Press**

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)** —

The Dominican Republic will soon issue the first residency and work permits for migrants under a new program that will enable them to avoid the risk of deportation, officials said Thursday, conceding that so far few have managed to qualify.

Since the year-long application period opened on June 2, more than 115,000 people have applied for legal status in the country, according to Deputy Interior Minister Washington Gonzalez.

So far, however, only 275 have met the criteria, Gonzalez said.

The first 80 will be receiving their permits in the coming days.

Gonzalez said that only about half of all applicants have submitted any of the required proof.

"This tells us where the problem is," he said. "The foreigners can't obtain the documents."

The difficulty has worried advocates for migrants and frustrated many of the applicants, who have been waiting in long lines this summer to submit the piles of documents to show they meet the eligibility requirements, which include having come to the country before October 2011.

"These statistics are certainly worrisome, and you might even say alarming," said Horacio Rodriguez, head of migration policy at Centro Bono, a Jesuit organization that has assisted migrants, mostly from neighboring Haiti, to apply for legal status.

Interior Minister Ramon Fadul has warned that migrants who don't secure legal status under this program may face deportation as the country seeks to gain greater control over its border.

The program to allow migrants to seek legal status was approved in 2004 but stalled until the Supreme Court ordered the govern-

ment to implement it in a ruling last September. The deadline for applying is May 31.

In a separate part of the September ruling, the court also said people born to non-citizens do not automatically qualify for Domin-

ican citizenship, retroactively stripping thousands of people of what they believed to be their nationality, and it directed the government to enact a plan to resolve their status as well. The government yet done to do so. □



**People line up to apply for Haitian identity cards at an office recently opened in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic is approving the first residency and work permits for migrants under a new program. To qualify for legal residency, migrants must have come to the Dominican Republic before October 2011. Migrants and advocates say the required documentation is hard to come up with and many may not make it by the May 31 deadline.**

(AP Photo/Ezequiel Abiu Lopez)

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**Club**

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 Oceanside \$9900  
 Oceanview \$9k  
 Oceanfront \$17k  
 3 BEDRM OV \$17k  
 PLATINUM Season  
 Oceanview \$16k  
 Oceanside \$17500  
 Oceanfront \$27,500  
 3 BEDRM OV \$27k  
 Plat. Plus Holiday 51  
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# Scientists dig into Ebola's deadly DNA for clues

**SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP Science Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A single funeral caused many. Stephen Gire and other health researchers on the ground in Africa had some hope that the Ebola outbreak was coming under control or at least plateauing in late May. Then came the funeral of a healer in Guinea. More than a dozen of the mourners contracted the disease there, probably by washing or touching the body, and took it to Sierra Leone, according to a new DNA mapping of the Ebola virus that scientists hope will help them understand what makes this killer tick. "You had this huge burst after it looked like the outbreak was starting to die down," Gire said. "It sort of threw a wrench in the response."

Ebola exploded after that funeral and has now killed at least 1,552 people in West Africa. It's probably more than that, with 40 percent of the cases in the last three weeks, according to the World Health Organization. WHO officials said Thursday the outbreak continues to accelerate and could reach more than 20,000 cases eventually.

Gire and more than 50 colleagues — five of whom died from Ebola while fighting the outbreak in Africa — have mapped the genetic code of this strain of Ebola, and in so doing showed how crucial that May funeral was. They hope to use that to track mutations that could become more worrisome the longer the outbreak lasts. This detailed genetic mapping also could eventually make a bit of a difference in the way doctors spot and fight the disease, especially with work in preliminary vaccines.



This undated handout photo provided by the journal Science shows Augustine Goba, laboratory director at Kenema Government Hospital in Sierra Leone. Associated Press

On Thursday, officials at the National Institutes of Health announced that they were launching safety trials on a preliminary vaccine for Ebola. Researchers have already checked that still-not-tested vaccine against some of the more than 350 mutations in this strain of Ebola to make sure the changes the disease is making won't undercut science's hurried efforts to fight it, said Pardis Sabeti, a scientist at Harvard University and its affiliated Broad Institute.

She and Gire, also at Broad and Harvard, are two of the lead authors of a study, published Thursday in the journal Science, that maps the killer disease strain based on specimens collected from 78 patients. The virus has mutated more than 300 times from previous strains of Ebola, Gire said. Researchers have also pinpointed about 50 places in the genetic code where the virus has changed since this outbreak started. So far, they don't know what any of those mutations mean, but they hope to find out.

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to spread, Sabeti said. It could also mutate to make it weaker.

By putting the genetic underpinnings of this Ebola strain out in the public in a matter of days instead of the normal months or years, Sabeti hopes to rally researchers worldwide to look at the data, the changes in the disease, and find something that could help.

"We need to crowd source this outbreak response," Sabeti said. "I want high school students analyzing this sequence. You want people in every country working to do something." Because this "phenomenally elegant study" is in real time, not years later, "it is worth its weight in whatever, gold, diamonds, platinum," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Fauci wasn't part of the study, but his agency did help fund it.

This study is "terrific" and has academic and practical value, said Erica Ollmann Saphire, a Scripps Research Institute professor and co-director of the global virus network. Saphire, who wasn't part of the study, said companies that are trying to find therapies for people already infected, such as those that use antibodies that bind to current strains, need to carefully track how this strain mutates to make sure their treatment works as best it can.

Some have wondered if the virulence of this outbreak is due to some more dangerous strain of Ebola. □

## Mystery of Death Valley's moving rocks solved



This undated photo provided by the National Park Service shows rocks that have moved across a dry lake bed in Death Valley National Park in California's Mojave Desert. Associated Press

**DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK, California (AP)** — For years scientists have theorized about how large rocks — some weighing hundreds of pounds — zig-zag across Racetrack Playa in Death Valley National Park, leaving long trails etched in the earth.

Now two researchers at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego, have photographed these "sailing rocks" being blown by light winds across

the former lake bed.

Cousins Richard Norris and James Norris said the movement is made possible when ice sheets that form after rare overnight rains melt in the rising sun, making the hard ground muddy and slick.

On Dec. 20, 2013, the cousins catalogued 60 rocks moving across the playa's pancake-flat surface.

"Observed rock movement occurred on sunny, clear days, following nights of sub-freezing temperatures," they wrote in a report published Wednesday in the online scientific journal PLOS ONE.

The conclusion proves theories that have been floated since geologists began studying the moving rocks in the 1940s.

The phenomenon doesn't happen often because it rarely rains in the notoriously hot and dry desert valley.

The rocks move about 15 feet (5 meters) per minute, according to the report.

Richard Norris, 55, a paleobiologist at Scripps, and James, 59, a research engineer, launched their

"Slithering Stones Research Initiative" in 2011, the Los Angeles Times reported.

After getting permits from the National Park Service, they installed a weather station in the area and placed 15 stones equipped with global positioning devices on the playa.

The "GPS stones," which were engineered to record movement and velocity, were stationed at the southern end of the playa where rocks begin their strange journeys after tumbling down a cliff.

At the end of last year, Richard and James Norris returned to inspect the instruments.

"We found the playa covered with ice," Richard recalled to the Times. "We also noticed fresh rock trails near shards of thin ice stacked up along the shoreline."

The following afternoon, "we were sitting on a mountainside and admiring the view when a light wind kicked up and the ice started cracking," he said. "Suddenly, the whole process unfolded before our eyes." □



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# Jolie, Pitt wed privately at chateau in France

JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The wait is finally over: Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, Hollywood's reigning royal couple, have tied the knot.

Despite two years of feverish scrutiny, the pair managed to keep one of the world's most anticipated weddings shrouded from the media's glare.

When? Where? Why haven't they yet? Did they already? The celebrity press and "Brangelina" fans alike had been consumed with the matrimonial mystery.

Then on Thursday, a spokesman for the couple quietly confirmed to The Associated Press that Hollywood's undisputed royal couple had wed Saturday in a private ceremony in Southern France.

Jolie and Pitt exchanged vows in a small chapel at the Chateau Miraval in the Provence hamlet of Correns. Since 2008, Miraval has been their Southern France home, a sprawling estate they bought three years ago.

The union was less a vow of commitment than the official affirmation of one made long ago. Pitt and Jolie have been together nearly a decade and have six children, all of whom participated in the wedding.

The wedding may have been cloaked in secrecy, but Pitt and Jolie are preparing to be a big presence at the movies this fall. Pitt stars in the upcoming World War II drama "Fury," due out Oct. 17. Jolie's second directorial effort, the World War II odyssey "Unbroken," will be released in December.

On Thursday, Pitt was far from any honeymoon hideaway. Instead, he was at the Bovington Tank Museum in Dorset, U.K., promoting "Fury," a brutal tale about a tank of American soldiers rolling through Europe in the final days of

World War II.

Both movies could be major players in Hollywood's award season, which last year was dominated by a film produced by Pitt, the best picture-winning historical drama "12 Years a Slave." At Saturday's ceremony, Jolie walked the aisle with her eldest sons, 13-year-old Maddox and 10-year-old Pax. Daughters Zahara, 9, and Vivienne, 6, threw flower petals. Eight-year-old Shiloh and Knox, 6, served as ring bearers, the couple's spokesman said. In advance of the non-denominational civil ceremony, Pitt and Jolie obtained a marriage license from a local California judge. The judge also conducted the ceremony in France.

Pitt once said that he didn't want to marry until gay marriage was legal everywhere, but in recent years, the couple had said publicly they intended to. They were engaged in early 2012 after some seven years together.

"It's an exciting prospect, even though for us, we've gone further than that," Pitt told The AP in an interview in November 2012. "But to concretize it in that way, it actually means more to me than I thought it would. It means a lot to our kids."

This is the second marriage for Pitt, who wed Jennifer Aniston in 2000. They divorced in 2005.

Jolie was previously married to British actor Jonny Lee Miller for three years in the late 1990s and to Billy Bob Thornton for three years before divorcing in 2003. Jolie has said she and Pitt fell in love while making the 2005 film "Mr. & Mrs. Smith."

Jolie won the supporting actress Oscar for "Girl, Interrupted" in 1999 and was nominated for the best-actress Oscar for 2008's "Changeling." Pitt shared the Academy Award for best picture for "12 Years a Slave." □



this Friday, June 13, 2014, file photo, U.S. actress Angelina Jolie, Special Envoy of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, accompanied by her partner and U.S. actor Brad Pitt arrive at the "End Sexual Violence in Conflict" summit in London.

Associated Press

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# Officials: Joan Rivers rushed to New York City hospital

**JAKE PEARSON**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Joan Rivers is in a New York City hospital Thursday after she was rushed from a doctor's office when she went into cardiac arrest, police and hospital officials said. The 81-year-old comedian's condition wasn't immediately known.

"This morning, Joan Rivers was taken to The Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, where she is being attended to. Her family wants to thank everybody for their outpouring of love and support," said Sid Dinsay, a spokesman for Mount Sinai Hospital. "We will provide an update on her condition as it becomes available."

New York City police officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to publicly name Rivers, said she was taken to the hospital just after 9:30 a.m. Thursday. It was unclear why she was visiting the doctor's office.

Rivers' representatives didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

The entertainer has logged a half-century in show business and gave rise to red carpet commentary — and the snarky criticism that often accompanies it. Her signature red carpet query: "Who are you wearing?"

She continues to maintain a busy schedule, and was to perform a show Friday at the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, New Jersey. That show was postponed because of her hospitalization.

Rivers spoke at an employee event at Time Inc. in New York on Wednesday night and appeared healthy, practically jogging when she walked in to take her seat, said Shira Blum, an online project manager.

"She seemed totally healthy," Blum said. "She was very energetic, hilarious, funny. And it was such



In this Jan. 19, 2012, file photo, Joan Rivers attends a screening of the Season 2 premiere of WE TV's "Joan & Melissa: Joan Knows Best?" in New York.

**Associated Press**

a shock, a surprise to hear the news this morning."

Rivers took questions and said she wakes up every morning and "is thankful that everything works," Blum said. An early and outspoken proponent of cosmetic surgery, Rivers' drastically altered her appearance over the years — and found plenty of material for jokes. ("I've had so much plastic surgery, when I die they will donate my body to Tupperware.")

The host of "Fashion Police" on E! network, Rivers also presides over an online talk show, "In Bed With

Joan" and co-stars with her daughter, Melissa, on the WEtv reality show, "Joan & Melissa: Joan Knows Best?" Her latest book, "Diary of a Mad Diva," was released this summer.

In 2009, Rivers emerged as the winner of NBC's "The Celebrity Apprentice." A documentary, "Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work," premiered in theaters in 2010. A native of New York, Rivers originally entered show business with the dream of a theatrical career, but comedy became a way to pay the bills while she auditioned for acting roles. □

## Shakira is pregnant with baby No. 2

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Shakira is pregnant with baby No. 2.

The Colombian singer made the announcement on her Facebook and Twitter pages on Thursday. Her representative confirmed that the accounts were real.

The Grammy winner wrote: "Yes, we are expecting our second baby!! Thank you all for your well wishes!"

No more details about the pregnancy were revealed. Shakira and soccer player Gerard Pique, 27, welcomed their son, Milan Pique Mebarak, last year. Pique, who is from Barcelona, is a soccer player for



In this July 13, 2014 file photo, singer Shakira carries her son Milan after she performed during the closing ceremony prior to the World Cup final soccer match between Germany and Argentina at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**Associated Press**

FC Barcelona.

Grammy-winning Shakira, 37, released her self-titled 10th album in March. □



In this Thursday, May 8, 2014, file photo, Bruce Springsteen performs during the USC Shoah Foundation's 20th anniversary Ambassadors for Humanity gala in Los Angeles.

**Associated Press**

## Springsteen picture book out in November

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Boss is getting into the picture book business.

"Outlaw Pete," which is based on a ballad from Bruce Springsteen's "Working on a Dream" album, will be published by Simon & Schuster on Nov. 4. The publisher said Thursday that the book will feature Springsteen's lyrics and illustrations by Frank Caruso. Springsteen's song was

inspired by the children's book "Brave Cowboy Bill," which came out in 1950. Springsteen has said that his mother used to tell him bedtime stories about Cowboy Bill.

Another rock 'n' roll superstar, Keith Richards, has a picture book out this fall. "Gus & Me," scheduled for release Sept. 9, is a tribute to Richards' grandfather, musician Gus Dupree. □

## William Greaves, TV host and filmmaker, dead at 87

**HILLEL ITALIE**  
**AP National Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — William Greaves, the Emmy-award winning co-host and executive producer of a groundbreaking television news program and a prolific filmmaker whose subjects ranged from Muhammad Ali to the Harlem Renaissance to the black middle class, has died at age 87.

Greaves died Monday at his Manhattan home after a prolonged illness, according to his granddaughter, Liani Greaves.

A minister's son born in New York City, Greaves had a diverse background that included drawing, acting, dance and engineering. He leaves behind a vast film archive of black art and culture.

Greaves made hundreds

of movies, and in the 1960s, he served as co-host and executive producer of "Black Journal," among the first TV news programs designed for a black audience. "Black Journal" won an Emmy in 1970 for excellence in public affairs. He studied engineering at City College of New York, but dropped out to pursue a career in the performing arts.

He joined the American Negro Theatre, where fellow members included Harry Belafonte and Sidney Poitier, and was briefly part of The Actors Studio, with Marlon Brando among his peers.

Greaves appeared in "Lost in the Stars," "Lost Boundaries" and other movies, but he became frustrated with the roles offered black performers. □



## The Golf Address



**MAUREEN DOWD**  
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Fore! Score? And 7 trillion rounds ago, our forecaddies brought forth on this continent a new playground, conceived by Robert Trent Jones, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal when it comes to spending as much time on the links as possible - even when it seems totally inappropriate, like moments after making a solemn statement condemning the grisly murder of a 40-year-old American journalist beheaded by the Islamic State.

I know reporters didn't get a chance to ask questions, but I had to bounce. I had a 1 p.m. tee time at Vineyard Golf Club with Alonzo Mourning and a part-owner of the Boston Celtics. Hillary and I agreed when we partied with Vernon Jordan up here, hanging out with celebrities and rich folks is fun.

Now we are engaged in a great civil divide in Ferguson, which does not even have a golf course, and that's why I had a "logistical" issue with going there. We are testing whether that community, or any community so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure when the nation's leader wants nothing more than to sink a birdie putt.

We are met on a great field of that battle, not Augusta, not Pebble Beach, not Bethpage Black, not Burning Tree, but Farm Neck Golf Club in Martha's Vineyard, which we can't get enough of - me, Alonzo, Ray Allen and Marvin Nicholson, my trip director and favorite golfing partner who has played 134 rounds and counting with me.

We have to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for my presidency, if I keep swinging from behind.

Yet it is altogether fitting and proper that I should get to play as much golf as I want, despite all the lame jokes about how golf is turning into "a real handicap" for my presidency and how I have to "stay the course" with the Islamic State. I've heard all the carping that I should be in the Situation Room droning and plinking the bad folks. I know some people think I should go to Ferguson. Don't they understand that I've delegated the Martin Luther King Jr. thing to Eric Holder? Plus, Valerie Jarrett and Al Sharpton have it under control. I know it doesn't look good to have pictures of me grinning in a golf cart juxtaposed with ones

of James Foley's parents crying, and a distraught David Cameron rushing back from his vacation after only one day, and the Pentagon news conference with Chuck Hagel and General Dempsey on the failed mission to rescue the hostages in Syria.

We're stuck in the rough, going to war all over again in Iraq and maybe striking Syria, too. Every time Chuck says the Islamic State is "beyond anything we've ever seen," I sprout seven more gray hairs. But my cool golf caps cover them. If only I could just play through the rest of my presidency.

The Islamic State is brutally killing hostages because we won't pay ransoms, rumbles of coups with our puppets in Iraq and Afghanistan, the racial caldron in Ferguson, the Ebola outbreak, the Putin freakout - there's enough awful stuff going on to give anyone the yips.

So how can you blame me for wanting to unwind on the course or for five hours at dinner with my former assistant chef? He's a great organic cook, and he's got a gluten-free backyard putting green.

But, in a larger sense, we can dedicate, we can consecrate, we can hallow this ground where I can get away from my wife, my mother-in-law, Uncle Joe, Congress and all the other hazards in my life.

The brave foursomes, living and dead, who struggled here in the sand, in the trees, in the water, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or subtract a few strokes to improve our score. Bill Clinton was Mr. Mulligan, and he is twice as popular as I am.

The world will little note, nor long remember, what we shot here, or why I haven't invited a bunch of tiresome congressmen to tee it up. I'm trying to relax, guys. So I'd much rather stay in the bunker with my usual bro.

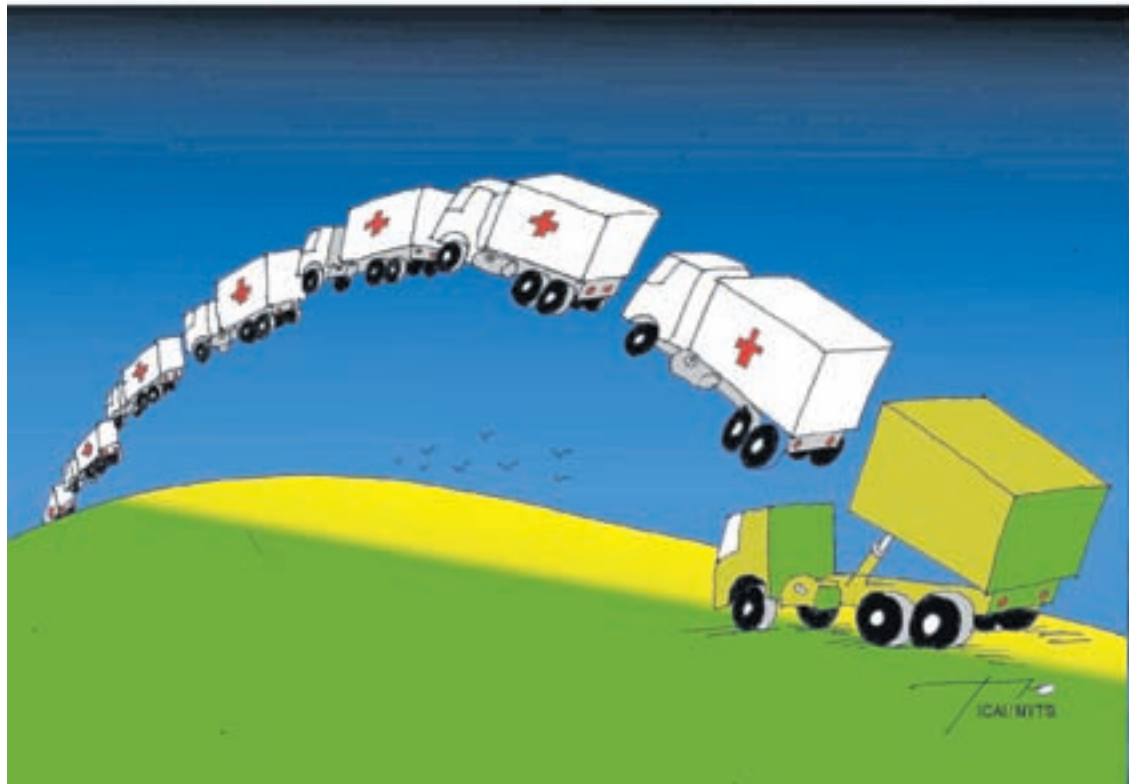
Why don't you play 18 with Mitch McConnell? And John Boehner is a lot better than me, so I don't want to play with him.

It is for us, the duffers, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who played here have thus far so nobly advanced to get young folks to stop spurning a game they find slow and boring.

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us of getting rid of our slice on the public's dime - that from this honored green we take increased devotion to that cause for which Bobby Jones, Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy gave their last full measure of devotion - and divots.

We here highly resolve that these golfing greats shall not have competed in vain, especially poor Tiger, and that this nation, under par, shall have a new birth of freedom to play the game that I have become unnaturally obsessed with, and that golf of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.

So help me Golf. □



## The Making of a Disaster



**ROGER COHEN**  
© 2014 New York Times

LONDON - Almost 13 years after 9/11, a jihadi organization with a murderous anti-Western ideology controls territory in Iraq and Syria, which are closer to Europe and the United States than Afghanistan is. It commands resources and camps and even a Syrian military base. It spreads its propaganda through social media. It has set the West on edge through the recorded beheading of the U.S. journalist James Foley - with the promise of more to come. What went wrong? The United States and its allies did not go to war to eradicate al-Qaida camps in Afghanistan only to face - after the expenditure of so much blood and treasure - a more proximate terrorist threat with an al-Qaida-like ideology. The "war on terror," it seems, produced only a metastasized variety of terror.

More than 500, and perhaps as many as 800, British Muslims have headed for Syria and Iraq to enlist in the jihadi ranks. In France, that number stands at about 900. Two adolescent girls, 15 and 17, were detained last week in Paris and face charges of conspiring with a terrorist organization.

The ideological appeal of the likes of the Islamic State is intact. It may be increasing, despite efforts to build an interfaith dia-

logue, reach out to moderate Islam, and pre-empt radicalization.

"One minute you are trying to pay bills, the next you're running around Syria with a machine gun," said Ghaffar Hussain, the managing director of the Quilliam Foundation, a British research group that seeks to tackle religious extremism. "Many young British Muslims are confused about their identity, and they buy into a narrow framework that can explain events. Jihadists hand them a simplistic narrative of good versus evil. They give them camaraderie and certainty. ISIS makes them feel part of a grand struggle." (ISIS is an acronym sometimes used for the Islamic State.)

A large part of Western failure has been the inability to counter the attraction of such extremism. Perhaps racked with historical guilt, European nations with populations from former colonies often seem unable to celebrate their values of freedom, democracy and the rule of law. Meanwhile, in the Arab world the central hope of the Arab Spring has been dashed: that more open and representative societies would reduce the frustration that leads to extremism.

President Barack Obama shunned the phrase "war on terror" to distance himself from the policies of President George W. Bush. But in reality he chose to pursue the struggle by other military means. He stepped up drone attacks on several fronts. His most conspicuous success was the killing of Osama bin Laden in 2011. The curtain, it seemed, had fallen on America's post-9/11 trauma. Then, a little more than three years after bin Laden's death, the Islamic State overran the Iraqi city of Mosul and the world woke up to the radicalization through the festering Syrian war of another generation of Muslims; youths drawn to the slaughter of infidels (as well as Shiite Muslims) and the far-fetched notion of recreating an Islamic caliphate under Sha-

riah law.

When a hooded Islamic State henchman with a British accent beheaded Foley last week, the new threat acquired urgency at last.

The list of American errors is long: Bush's ill-conceived and bungled war in Iraq; a failure to deal with the fact that two allies, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, have been major sources and funders of violent Sunni extremism; an inability to seize opportunity in Egypt, home to nearly a quarter of the world's Arabs, and so demonstrate that Arab societies can evolve out of the radicalizing confrontation of dictatorship and Islamism; a prolonged spate of dithering over the Syrian war during which Obama declared three years ago that "the time has come for President Assad to step aside" without having any plan to achieve that; a lack of resolve in Syria that saw Obama set a red line on the use of chemical weapons only to back away from military force when chemical weapons were used; an inability to see that no one loves an Arab vacuum like jihadi extremists, and a bloody vacuum was precisely what Obama allowed Syria to become; and inattention, until it was too late, to festering sectarian conflict in a broken Iraqi society left to its fate by a complete U.S. withdrawal.

The chicken that came home to roost from the Syrian debacle is called the Islamic State. It is not al-Qaida. But, as the journalist Patrick Cockburn has noted, al-Qaida "is an idea rather than an organization, and this has long been the case."

Islamic State grew through U.S. weakness - the setting of objectives and red lines in Syria that proved vacuous. But the deepest U.S. and Western defeat has been ideological. As Hussain said, "If you don't have a concerted strategy to undermine their narrative, their values, their worldview, you are not going to succeed. Everyone in society has to take on the challenge." □



# Teens Pass Over Latest Clothing Trends in Favor of Tech

ELIZABETH A. HARRIS

RACHEL ABRAMS

© 2014 New York Times

For some teenagers, wearing last season's jeans will always be unthinkable. But a growing number consider texting on a dated smartphone even worse. For teenage apparel retailers, that screen-obsessed teenager poses a big threat in the still-important back-to-school sales season.

Muscle shirts and strategically ripped jeans no longer provide an assured

she likes to "stay connected," she said.

"It's definitely more exciting for a lot of teenagers to have a new phone that can do lots of cool stuff than clothing," said Nicole Myers, 19, a model in New York who emerged from an Apple store Monday with a new iPhone that cost about \$200. "A phone keeps you much more entertained. It's a better distraction than clothing."

Analysts and trend-spotters agree that a major shift in teenage trends, and in

The teenage apparel sector of retailing, whose sales account for about 15 percent of all apparel sales, according to the NPD Group, is in a deep slump as sales have declined over the last several quarters. Aside from the attention given to tech items like phones, apps and accessories, some longstanding retailers have been hard hit by competition from fast-fashion stores like Forever 21 and H&M, which offer up-to-the-minute trends at low prices. Online shop-

accessorize her phone.

That's a fashion statement itself, she suggested. "When you take pictures, people see your case," she said.

In fact, accessories like crystal-studded phone cases or neon-colored headphones are high on a teenager's shopping list.

"Having a cool phone to show you're plugged in is a huge part of people's style, a huge part of life these days," said Eva Chen, editor in chief of Lucky Magazine, adding that teen-

tration is high and children must generally wait for their next upgrade for their next device, she said.

But technology does seem to indirectly influence other spending habits, she said. For the first time, Piper Jaffray's semiannual survey of teenagers in the spring found that they spent more money on food - just barely topping clothing - than any other category.

"There's this magnetism to restaurant environments," Wissink said. "So we talked to teens about why, and it's the free Wi-Fi."

"I'm addicted to Instagram," said Ann Borrero, a 19-year-old who attends high school in Brooklyn and has a running list of the restaurants she often chooses to get Internet access. "I just usually know, like McDonald's always have Wi-Fi, little cafes always have Wi-Fi." Top executives at traditional retailers have felt the strain of quarter after quarter of disappointing results, and many of those companies have undergone upheaval in their top ranks. This month, the chief executive of Aéro-postale, Thomas P. Johnson, agreed to step down and be succeeded by his predecessor, Julian R. Geiger. In January, the chief executive of American Eagle, Robert L. Hanson, left the company after only two years in the position. And that same month, Abercrombie & Fitch split the role of chairman and chief executive under pressure from investors.

In addition to changes in the teenage-specific landscape, retailers across a range of categories are learning how to manage a back-to-school season that has shifted significantly in recent years. While still a crucial season for retailers, its window has become less delineated, sometimes starting a bit later and often lasting past the beginning of the school year.

"The grave mistake was to annually assume that the back-to-school shopper was going to show up like clockwork in July and buy goods in that time frame," Morris of BMO said. □



**Nicole Myers, 19, a model, outside of the Apple store in New York, Aug. 25, 2014. For teenage apparel retailers, screen-obsessed teenagers who care less about the latest clothing trend and more about the newest smartphone, computer, gaming and music technology pose a big threat to the still-important back-to-school sales season. (Hiroko Masuike/The New York Times)**

spot for retailers like Hollister and American Eagle Outfitters in the marketplace of what's cool at an American high school. The social cachet these days involves waving the latest in hand-held technology. "Clothes aren't as important to me," said Olivia D'Amico, a 16-year-old from New York, as she shopped at Hollister with her sister and a friend. "Half the time I don't really buy any brands. I just bought a pair of fake Doc Martens because I don't really care."

She probably spends more on technology because

teenage spending, is underway. John Morris, a retail analyst at BMO Capital Markets, says that his regular focus groups with teenagers about what trends they find most appealing often stray from clothing. "You try to get them talking about what's the next look, what they're excited about purchasing in apparel, and the conversation always circles back to the iPhone 6," he said. "You get them talking about crop tops, you get a nice little debate about high-waist going, but the conversation keeps shifting back."

ping has also reduced mall traffic among teenage consumers, and the popularity of Instagram whips fads around so quickly that teenagers are not chasing one enduring fashion item. Young shoppers are the first to point out the use of phones in e-commerce.

"You can shop online for clothes on your phone," Caitlin Haywood, 15, a high school sophomore from New York, said on her way into a Hollister in downtown Manhattan. A fan of the store's "California style," she also noted that she owned many decorative coverings so that she could

agers used smartphones to signal status in the way men used to do with ornate watches.

A bright spot for teenage retailers might be the economics of the phone market, since most teenagers do not have the money to buy the newest iPhone or Samsung Galaxy the moment it is released.

Stephanie Wissink, a managing director at Piper Jaffray, said that after several years of strong growth, the percentage of money that teenagers spend on electronics appeared to have stabilized at around 8 or 9 percent. Cellphone pene-